

**Student Government Association Senate**  
**Northern Illinois University**  
**2:00 p.m. – Friday, 24 February 2023**  
**Holmes Student Center Heritage Room**  
**Public Streaming: <http://go.niu.edu/SGASenateLive>**

***Members of the public wishing to give public comment, please submit an [Intent to Speak](#) form, no later than 11:59 pm, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023.***

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Verification of Quorum
- III. Public Comments
- IV. Approval of Minutes
  - A. *Minutes are distributed electronically to the Senate.*
- V. Approval of Agenda
- VI. Speaker's Report
- VII. Special Report
- VIII. Office of the Speaker Report(s)
- IX. Committee Report(s)
- X. Executive Branch Report(s)
- XI. Cabinet Report(s)
  - A. Director Blalock (written)
- XII. Old Business
- XIII. New Business
  - A. SR54030: A resolution to grant official recognition to student organizations
  - B. SB54027: A bill to require Senators in the Student Government Association to complete one piece of legislation during their time in office.
- XIV. Good of the Order
- XV. Announcements
- XVI. Adjournment

Please be advised that public comments will be limited to five (5) minutes per person, and that any one topic may not be discussed for more than 15 minutes.

**New Business**

**Agenda Item:** A

**Author:** Chairperson Hensley

**Sponsor:**

**First Reading**  
24 February 2023

**ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 54030**  
**Fifty-Fourth Session**

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**Summary:** A resolution to grant official recognition to student organizations

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, the Organization Oversight Committee has granted the below student organizations temporary recognition; and

WHEREAS, the Senate has the responsibility to approve of official recognition for student organizations.

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby grant official Student Government Association to;

1. History Graduate Student Association (HGSA)
2. Graduate Arts Association (GAA)
3. Women and Gender Advocacy Alliance (WGAA)
4. WeCare4NIU

***This act is ordered to take immediate effect.***

**New Business**

**Agenda Item: B**

**Author:** Deputy Speaker Allen, Historian Babcock

**Sponsor:**

**First Reading**

24 February 2023

**ENROLLED SENATE BILL 54027**  
**Fifty-Fourth Session**

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**Summary:** A bill to require Senators in the Student Government Association to complete one piece of legislation during their time in office.

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, Article 2, §1 of the SGA Bylaws describes the duties and responsibilities of Senators; and

WHEREAS, the Student Government is responsible for being the voice of students at the university; and

WHEREAS, Senators are expected to engage in outreach and participate in meetings; and

WHEREAS, legislation is one of the best way Senators can support their constituency; and

WHEREAS, members of the Senate need to be able to demonstrate their understanding of all forms of legislation;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact that amendments be made to the Bylaws to include the requirement that all senators need to write at least one piece of legislation during their term in office.

**ARTICLE II**  
**LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**

**Section 1**  
**Duties and Responsibilities of the Senate**

The Student Government Association Senate shall have the following duties and responsibilities as a body acting in accord with the Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules:

- A. Only the Senate shall have the power to authorize a person to be paid from student fee monies. The following officials are authorized to be paid from student fees at the amount determined by the Senate each year in its annual budget: SGA Accountant and SGA Office Support Specialist.
- B. Legislate all matters of student interest.
- C. Review all activities, business, policy, and property affecting the students of Northern Illinois University.
- D. Review any executive action that spends student fee money within two Senate meetings after it has occurred, unless that expenditure was authorized by either of the following:
  1. The passage of a resolution or act by the Senate.
  2. The expenditure was necessary to the normal conduct of SGA activities.
- E. Allocate Student Activity Fees based on a budget submitted by the Treasurer on behalf of the

organization(s) requesting funds. It shall be a sole responsibility of the NIU SGA Senate to legislate salary increases for all student organizations.

- F. Investigate, initiate, and recommend student government and University policy and present such recommendations or orders to the proper people.
- G. Request the advice of any elected or appointed member of the Student Government Association. No person shall be compelled to give advice by the Senate other than its own members. No person shall give advice if the opinion requested is outside of their area of knowledge, creates a conflict of interest, requires extensive research, or is the duty of the Senate or its committees.
- H. Each member of the Senate is required to introduce one piece of legislation during their term in office to demonstrate their knowledge as well as their outreach efforts to their constituency. This piece of legislation shall be completed and submitted to the Senate twenty (20) business days after their first one-on-one with the Deputy Speaker.

All subsequent subheadings shall be re-lettered to remain in order.

***This act is ordered to take immediate effect.***