**Student Government Association Senate**

**Northern Illinois University**

**Friday February 28th, 2025 – 4:00 PM**

**Holmes Student Center Sky Room**

**Public Streaming:** [**http://go.niu.edu/SGASenateLive**](https://niu-edu.zoom.us/j/82215987778?pwd=SlBtaEFiaG0xWmp0SWs4b0VZZVhpZz09)

*Members of the public wishing to give public comment, please submit an* [*Intent to Speak*](https://cglink.me/2sZ/s54) *form, no later*

*than 11:59 pm, February 27th, 2025.*

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Verification of Quorum
3. Public Comments
4. Approval of Minutes
   1. Minutes from February 21st, 2025
5. Approval of Agenda
6. Speaker’s Report
7. Special Report
8. Office of the Speaker Report(s)
9. Committee Report(s)
10. Executive Branch Report(s)
    1. Student Trustee Report
11. Cabinet Report(s)
12. Old Business
    1. SB56020: A bill to introduce executive orders to the Student Government Association.
    2. SB56021: A bill to update the responsibilities and duties of Speaker
13. New Business
    1. SB56022: A bill to update the bylaws to prevent removed senators from being appointed as a Senator for the next session.
    2. SR56037: A resolution to call upon the Chief Justice to speak at the next scheduled Senate meeting.
    3. SR56038: A resolution to confirm a Director for Athletics
14. Good of the Order
15. Announcements
16. 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.*

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami,

Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Chickasaw Nations.

**Old Business**  **First Reading**

**Agenda Item: A**    February 21st, 2025

**Author:** DeputySpeaker Gonzalez

**Sponsor:** DeputySpeakerGonzalez

**ENROLLED SENATE BILL 56020**

**Fifty–Sixth Session**

**Summary:** A bill to introduce executive orders to the Student Government Association.

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, the President lacks the ability to formally issue binding resolutions or directives that direct the Executive Branch towards a vision, mission or craft policy;

WHEREAS, the President lacks the ability to formally discipline members in a way that does not escalate to outright removal through established Student Government governing documents; and

WHEREAS, Student Government Association (SGA) cannot implement guiding focuses for elected officers without changing duties through acts of amendment to SGA governing documents that can take time and stray away from focus of typical operations; and

WHEREAS, each directive is only enforceable to the branch that it originates from and cannot adversely impact the established duties and responsibilities of Senators set in Student Government Association governing documents.

WHEREAS, executive orders can be overridden in the newly established procedures set forth in this legislation; and

WHEREAS, executive orders cannot be unconstitutional nor can they violate laws and regulations imposed by the University, local ordinances, the State of Illinois or the federal government, such as Open Meetings Act (OMA), Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), etc.; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court of Student Government Association may convene as a case to seek the overturning of any executive order if they feel it is unconstitutional or by petition of a member of the Executive Branch.

WHEREAS, Article II, §1.A the Student Government Association Constitution states that, “The Senate shall have the power to create and amend the SGA Bylaws”,

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate resolve that Constitution & Bylaws be amended to the following:

**ARTICLE III.  THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

A.  Item-veto bills of the Senate and its committees.

B.  Allocate funds as prescribed in the Bylaws, in the absence of the Senate.

C.  Call meetings of the Student Body-at-Large at the request of the Senate, or at any time the President shall deem it of sufficient urgency.  The President shall preside over all meetings which are called by them.

D.  Assist the Vice President or the Treasurer in any matter relating to the SGA.

E.  Act as chief spokesperson and liaison for the SGA in all matters inside and outside of the University community and with the administration.

F. Represent the SGA in the negotiations of the terms of its contracts, which are subject to the approval of the Senate.  The President shall bestow SGA honors and awards with Senate approval.

G.  Direct all programs of the SGA.

H.  Appoint all Justices of the Judicial Branch.  All such appointments must be approved by the Senate and may not be dismissed by the President.

I.  Appoint such staff and commissions as shall be necessary to carry out the duties of the office.  Those appointed to hold salaried positions must be approved by the Senate prior to taking office.  All those appointed under this subsection may be dismissed by the Senate under the removal process described in this Constitution or may be dismissed at any time by the President.

J. Appoint members of the SGA and the NIU Student body to university committees including but not limited to: the University Council and its committees, the Athletic Board, the Campus Parking Committee, the Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee, the Student Conduct Advisory Board, the Computing Facilities Advisory Committee, the Library Advisory Committee, the Northern Star Publications Board, the Parking Appeals Committee, the Student Conduct Board, and the Grievance Panel.

J.  Delegate additional activities to unelected Executive Branch members in addition to the duties already outlined by the SGA bylaws.

K.  Prepare the SGA budget and determine spending priorities of the SGA.

M. Serve on the University Council alongside the Speaker of the Senate.

N. Serve on the University Council Steering Committee alongside the Speaker of the Senate.

O. The President shall conduct at least one (1) comprehensive evaluation of all paid SGA executive branch staff members, other than the elected officers, each semester. Staff evaluations are to be conducted by the tenth (10th) week of each semester. The Evaluations shall include recommendations as to how to improve. The President must report the evaluation immediately to the Senate after it is completed. The Chief of Staff shall help the President in the evaluation process.

P.         The President shall be able to issue Executive Orders that are only enforceable to members of the Executive Branch.

**ARTICLE III EXECUTIVE BRANCH**

**Section 3**

**Duties and Responsibilities of the Executive Branch**

The Student Government Association Executive Branch shall have the following duties and responsibilities when acting in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws:

1. Coordinate all Student Government Association activities to ensure the success of the organization.
2. Investigate issues of student interest using Senate and non-Senate persons.
3. Initiate and recommend legislation to the Student Senate.
4. Act for the student government in situations in which immediate action is necessary.
5. Allocate financial expenditures to a maximum of five (5%) percent of the total Student Activity Fee collected during the fiscal year. A written report will be filed with the Senate Speaker and the SGA Treasurer within four (4) business days following the executive allocation.
6. Supervise Student Government Association committees to ensure their efficient functioning based on the Bylaws of the Student Government Association.
7. To establish ad hoc committees of the SGA, such as taskforces, etc., and/or conduct hearings. Establishment includes the determination of the organization, membership, and non-management duties of the ad hoc committees.
8. The President shall conduct at least one (1) comprehensive evaluation of all paid SGA executive branch staff members, other than the elected officers, each semester. Staff evaluations are to be conducted by the tenth (10th) week of each semester. The Evaluations shall include recommendations as to how to improve. The President must report the evaluation immediately to the Senate after it is completed. The Chief of Staff shall help the President in the evaluation process.
9. The President of the SGA shall address Northern Illinois University’s student body and the Student Government Association’s Senate by speaking on the state of the student government and student interest.
10. It will be the responsibility of the SGA to review the following listed organizations and services and provide funding to enhance the quality of life for NIU students: Campus Child Care, Health Enhancement, Huskie Bus System, Huskie Tracks (GPS Bus Locator), Organizational Expo, Organizational Development, Recreation Services, Student Legal Service, Campus Security Fund, Go Student Leaders, Organizational Blackboard Community, SGA Study Abroad Initiative, and SGA Senator Study Abroad Scholarship.
11. Executive Branch Members are required to become certified and take the Illinois Open Meetings Act training as directed by the SGA Operating Manual. Executive branch members are only required to complete the training once during their term in office.
12. Executive Branch Members are required to write transitional materials due no later than the first week of March. They are to be entrusted to the President or Chief of Staff.
13. If their successor has already been elected for the term they will serve they shall work with the incumbent to train them accordingly.
14. The Chief of Staff is responsible for collecting Director transitional materials and providing it to the next administration.
15. If no materials are collected by the deadline, then the President can speak to the official to reconcile the lapse in duty. If the President does not submit materials, the Vice President or Chief of Staff may remind them of their responsibility.
16. The Executive Branch shall review all of each member's materials to ensure they are professional, provide clarity, or otherwise do not contain omissions of fact by the last business day of March.
17. The President shall have the power to issue Executive Orders that affect the visions, focus, and mission of only the Executive Branch. They may also be used to discipline paid officials short of outright removal. The President must notify all Executive Branch officials and the public in writing of the issuing of any order within forty-eight (48) hours to allow challenges. Challenges are to be enacted Executive Branch SGA members or the Parliamentarian using the procedures established in Section §11.C. If there is no challenge, the order goes into effect immediately or whichever date is decided by the President, so long as it does not conflict with the above timeframe. The Speaker of the Senate must also be notified within this timeframe.
18. Executive Orders are not able to be unconstitutional nor violate regulations and laws imposed on Student Government Association by the University, local ordinance, State of Illinois or the federal government.
19. The President must keep a signed copy, both written and digital, and deposit them to the Parliamentarian for archival purposes.
20. Executive Orders automatically are repealed and not enforceable at the start of the next session, or when the SGA President is replaced through established procedures. An order by be renewed by the next administration utilizing the same or altered text and will still abide by the same challenging procedures outlined above.

**Section 4**

**Student Government Association Cabinet**

1. The President appoints the Cabinet, which exists for the purpose of assisting the President in the performance of their duties and responsibilities. The SGA Cabinet shall consist of the President, Chief of Staff, and all paid Directors in the Executive Branch. The President may add the other elected members of the Executive Branch to the cabinet as members.
2. All Directors shall be appointed by the President (or Vice President at the discretion of the President and confirmed by the Senate. No SGA official, besides officers elected through the spring elections, shall be paid without being confirmed by the Senate. Upon election in the spring, the President-elect shall have the ability to appoint members of the cabinet for the following session. The Senate in session at the time of a cabinet appointment shall conduct a confirmation hearing and vote. The President shall make every effort to fill cabinet vacancies as they arise. If a position remains vacant for more than eight (8) weeks while the Senate is in session, the President shall submit a written rationale to the Senate that addresses their plan to find a qualified applicant for the position. Directorship applications will close when there are six (6) Senate meetings remaining in the Senate session and no more applicants will be heard by the Senate, except for appointments for the following session made by the President-elect.
3. The Cabinet shall be managed by the Chief of Staff and shall report to the President. All Cabinet members, regardless of their position:
4. Shall attend University functions where SGA attendance is needed at the direction of the President.
5. Shall assist in the transition of any new staff as needed.
6. Shall maintain scheduled office hours as set by the Chief of Staff.
7. Shall keep office hours, defined as work conducted during the normal business hours of the Student Government Association.
8. Shall participate in workshops, trainings, and retreats as directed by the President.
9. Shall work and hold office hours when the Senate is not regularly meeting, such as between semesters, as directed by the President. These work periods shall not be exempt from expectations to produce weekly staff reports.
10. Shall attend weekly staff meetings, prepare weekly written staff reports to be given to the Chief of Staff  to be placed on the SGA website, and present a minimum of one (1)  report to the Senate each month either in writing or in person. In the event the Director cannot attend a Senate meeting, the Rules and Procedures Committee and the Chief of Staff must approve the written report prior to their absence.
11. Shall perform other tasks as specified by the President.
12. May appoint a committee or volunteers, with the approval of the President, to assist in the execution of the duties. If given specific duties and hold office hours, volunteers may be appointed by the Director as a Deputy Director with the approval of the President. These individuals are not members of the Cabinet, will not receive pay, and are to be supervised by the Director.
13. Graduate assistants shall be eligible to apply for positions in the Executive Cabinet. If hired, they shall receive a comparable University graduate assistant stipend.
14. Submit a written petition to both the Chief of Staff and SGA Adviser to overrule any Executive Order that is deemed unnecessary, inappropriate, or unconstitutional. A hearing is to be held run by the Chief of Staff or SGA Adviser is the position is vacant. Sixty percent (60%) votes are needed to overturn any Executive Order.
15. If the vote fails, the opposition may write a petition to the Supreme Court of SGA to hear the case for overturning the Executive Order.
16. The Chief of Staff, working under the direction of the President, is responsible for acting as the Student Government Association’s chief administrative officer with duties including oversight of the executive cabinet and staff, office maintenance, and assisting the President. The Chief of Staff shall
17. Provide oversight, direction, and management to the executive staff by conducting weekly staff meetings, coordinating the overall activities of the Cabinet, assigning tasks, collecting weekly staff reports, assigning staff members Senate meetings to attend, and meeting bi-weekly with individual staff members one on one.
18. Assist the President in the execution of the duties; this may include responding to inquiries made to the President.
19. Assist the President in appointing students to serve on university committees and coordinate oversight of these appointments.
20. Assist the President in staffing University events where SGA representation is needed, including but not limited to open houses.
21. Assist the President in coordinating staff evaluations for Senate review.
22. Assist the President in preparing the Executive Cabinet for Senate review and approval.
23. Act as a liaison among the President, Vice President, Chief Justice and Speaker of the Senate to ensure that all legislation is signed and submitted to appropriate parties.
24. Coordinate with the Student Government Association Office Manager to ensure staff are provided access to computers, office supplies, and the copy machine and that the SGA office is presentable and aesthetically pleasing.
25. Coordinate and keep track of all SGA inventories, including, but not limited to, SGA computers, cameras, printers, fax machines, laptops, and chairs.
26. Summarize the weekly staff reports into a weekly report to present to the President.
27. Update the Student Government Association staff manual annually.
28. Shall notify the President within twenty-four (24) hours of when they receive notice to overturn an Executive Order. They shall organize a hearing within eight (8) business days and preside over a hearing on the matter and will not have a vote unless in the case of a tie.

**ARTICLE V.  THE JUDICIAL BRANCH**

**Section 1.  Powers of the Supreme Court**

Upon proper presentation of a petition from a member of the student body with standing, the Supreme Court shall have the power to:

A.  Rule on the constitutionality of action taken by any SGA-recognized student organization.

B.  Interpret the constitution and bylaws of SGA-recognized organizations.

C. Rule on the constitutionality of action taken by the Legislative Branch or its members.

D. Rule on the constitutionality of action taken by any Executive Branch or its members.

E.  Rule on appeals relating to the proper conduct of elections.

F.  Rule on appeals relating to disciplinary actions taken by the Senate.

G.  Decide the wording of referenda.

H. Review and recommended changes to SGA governing documents.

I.         Rule on the constitutionality of Executive Orders issued by the President.

***This legislation is ordered to take effect at the start of the 57th Session.***

**­­­Old Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: B**  February 21st, 2025

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz

**ENROLLED SENATE BILL 56021**

**Fifty–Sixth Session**

**Summary:** A bill to update the responsibilities and duties of Speaker

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, the main responsibility of the Speaker is to oversee the entire SGA Senate and members of the Legislative Branch; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Speaker to remain an impartial chair during Senate meetings to ensure equal and fair voting procedures within said Senate meetings; and

WHEREAS, the changes listed shall ensure that the Speaker will only cast a vote in the event of a tie to break said tie; and

WHEREAS, the Speaker shall review and update the Senate Operating Manual on a yearly basis, which shall be approved by the Senate; and

WHEREAS, the Speaker should have the responsibility to fill all Senate committees and provide a notable amount of Senators for each committee; and

WHEREAS, the Speaker should have the power to join a committee to ensure that a committee can run effectively and has a direction to follow; and

WHEREAS, the changes listed shall provide more responsibilities to senators and keep the Speaker accountable for their actions; and

WHEREAS, Article IV, §1.B of the Student Government Association Constitution states that, To solely amend the SGA Constitution as provided for herein.”;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact that the

SGA bylaws be changed to the following:

A.  The Speaker of the Senate shall be chosen by the Senate and serve a one (1) year term of office, and shall enjoy all rights, privileges, and responsibilities of a Senator, other than the right to vote. If the Speaker shall also be elected to the Senate, then the Speaker shall have the right to vote, only if in the instance of a tie.  The Speaker shall have the authority to send resolutions or bills to any relevant committee for study; this shall not be interpreted to abridge the authority of the Senate to make decisions on resolutions or bills.  The Speaker shall be the spokesperson for the Senate.

B.  It shall be the responsibility of the Speaker to enforce all SGA rules within the Legislative Branch.  The Speaker shall be responsible for the preparation and publication of the minutes of all Senate meetings, which shall include a record of the attendance of the members of the Senate, within five (5) calendar days of each meeting.  The minutes and the record of attendance shall be presented to the Senate at the next regular meeting.  The Speaker shall attend meetings and deliver statements on behalf of the Senate and perform all other duties delegated to the Speaker by the Senate.

C.  It shall be the responsibility of the Speaker to instruct all new senators of correct constitutional, bylaw, and parliamentary procedures. It shall be the responsibility of the Speaker to update all Senators on any procedure changes that will affect senators during their term as a senator.

D.  The Speaker shall cause to be kept accurate records of Senate meetings, the Operating Rules of the Senate and all committees that report to the Senate. Upon their appointment as Speaker, it is the Speaker’s responsibility to review and update the Senate Operating Manual which will be brought forth to the Senate for approval within the first meeting of the new session. If the Senate rejects the new Senate Operating Manual, the Senate Operating Manual shall be sent to the Rules & Procedures Committee for further review and be brought back to the Senate in the following regularly-scheduled meeting.

E. Appoint Senators to all Senate Committees ~~with the approval of the Senate~~ and shall coordinate such committees as necessary. The Speaker has the responsibility to remove any Senator from a committee with adequate reasoning to ensure that the committee can fulfill their responsibilities effectively. The Speaker shall notify the chair of the committee of any removal as well as provide the reasoning for the removal.

F.  Serve as a member on the Senate Finance Committee.  The Speaker has the authority to sit in on any Senate committee as a non-voting, ex-officio member. The Speaker has the power to join the committee with majority consent of the committee.

G. The Speaker of the Senate shall have the authority to call off a Senate meeting in extreme cases. However, the Speaker may not call off two consecutively - scheduled senate meetings without the approval of a majority of the Senate.  The Speaker’s discretion at canceling the meeting will be put under review by the Senate for the following meeting.  If the reasons for the Speaker in calling off the meeting are deemed invalid, then the Senate is empowered to take action against them.

H.         If the appropriate office(s) or officer(s) fails to amend the Constitution and Bylaws within

twenty-one (21) days of passage, the amendments are transferred to the Office of the Speaker, who will update the Constitution and Bylaws within fourteen (14) days of the transfer.

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

**­­­New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: A**   **February 28th, 2025**

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz

**ENROLLED SENATE BILL 56022**

**Fifty–Sixth Session**

**Summary:** A bill to update the bylaws to prevent removed senators from being appointed as a Senator for the next session.

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, Senators who are removed from office are not eligible to be appointed again in the current session; and

WHEREAS, Senators who are removed from office are eligible to be appointed into office for the next session; and

WHEREAS, Senators should not be eligible to be appointed for the next session if they were removed in the current session; and

WHEREAS, Senators can rely on running again in the Spring Elections for the next session if they were removed from the current session; and

WHEREAS, removal of a Senator should only be used in the case that it is the only course of action of discipline for the Senator; and

WHEREAS, the justifiable cause of removal is required to write legislation to remove a Senator; and

WHEREAS, the Senator is required a two-thirds (2/3) vote to be removed from office during the Senate meeting; and

WHEREAS, Article IV, §1.B of the Student Government Association Constitution states that, “The Senate shall have the power to create and amend the SGA Bylaws”;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact that the

SGA bylaws be changed to the following:

**Section 5**

**Senate Vacancies**

1. Until all Senate seats have been filled as described in the Student Government Association Bylaws Part II Article III, §1.A the Speaker shall accept applications for all vacancies on the Senate, including vacancies for the next session that were not filled during the Spring Election. Vacancies shall include all seats in which a Senator has resigned or been removed, or the seat was not originally filled during the election. As each vacancy is announced, the Speaker shall present the name of the first applicant who has registered with a completed application for consideration for an open seat.Applications will not be taken from graduating students when less than six (6) meetings remain in the session or from returning students when less than four (4) meetings remain in the session. No person who is on the applicant list may be skipped, except for the following:
   1. The applicant asks to be skipped.
   2. The applicant cannot attend the next regularly scheduled Senate meeting.
   3. The applicant’s packet of information is not complete; such applicants will be moved to the bottom of the applicant list for later consideration.
   4. The applicant has not attended at least one Senate meeting in its entirety.
   5. The applicant has already been denied by the Senate in any given Senate session.
2. The Senate will interview each applicant in order ofeach open seat. The Senate Speaker will introduce all applicants who meet the current Senate seat replacement criteria to the Senate.
3. The Senate Seat Replacement Criteria and procedures are as follows:
   1. Candidates for all Student Government Association offices shall be NIU students in good academic standing.
   2. All candidates for the Student Government Association office must sign a waiver releasing their name and student identification number, allowing them to determine if the student is in good academic standing through the Office of Registration and Records.
   3. Re-entering students shall be eligible for candidacy for Student Government Association posts.
   4. All candidates for Senate seat replacement positions must have attended at least one full Student Government Association Senate meeting prior to candidacy for Senate. (To ascertain attendance, potential candidates must check in with the Senate Clerk within five minutes of roll being called and be present when their name is called at the final roll call at the adjournment of the meeting.)
   5. Applicants must give their presentation to the Senate within four (4) Senate meetings of their attendance as a member of the public. This time limit may be waived at the Speaker’s discretion should any extenuating circumstances apply.
   6. All candidates must obtain fifty (50) signatures from their constituents prior to submitting the application to the Speaker. The signatures must include the students’ full name, signature, Z-ID number, and a local phone number.
   7. Candidates must have turned in an application for the Senate seat replacement position to the SGA Senate Speaker at least 48 hours prior to the Senate meeting in which applications are first presented. If the candidate is applying for a seat for the next session of the Senate, the candidate must indicate that they are applying for the next session.
   8. All candidates are required to provide proof of residence hall contracts, college affiliation, or resource center affiliation depending on the seat for which they are running. Regarding college seats, ‘proof’ shall be an official document or email received from the school; in the case of university-At-Large, an official document or email from the University. Proof for underrepresented seats shall be an email or letter from the resource center (If there is no resource center for an underrepresented group, then an official email or letter from a student organization representing the group will suffice.) University housing shall provide an official letter or email from the Housing Department/Hall Director/Graduate Hall Director or official housing contract.
   9. At the meeting in which they are presented, the applicants will be given the opportunity to give a speech, no longer than five minutes, to address the Senate on their reasons for becoming a Senator.
   10. The order in which applicants will be allowed to speak will be the same order in which the applications were turned into the Senate Speaker. However, each applicant will be considered separately for each open seat. No applicant can be considered before an applicant who is qualified and turns in a completed application first.
   11. After the candidate’s speech, the Senate floor will be open for the Senate to ask the candidate questions. Each Senator will have five (5) minutes to ask questions and receive answers. Following all candidates’ speeches, the candidates will wait outside the Senate chambers as the Senate discusses the candidates.
   12. After the Senate closes discussion, each candidate will be voted on individually in the order in which they spoke. Any candidate who has completed the process outlined above but was not selected to join the Senate will be required to attend an entire additional meeting before being considered again.
   13. All SGA officials involved in the Senate vacancy approval process must make all decisions in a viewpoint-neutral fashion. All candidates shall be judged objectively on their personal merit and character and not on the views of the group(s) or organization(s) with which they are affiliated.
   14. The applicants must be approved by a two-thirds vote of those present and voting.
   15. The newly approved Senators will take office after the voting has taken place on all candidates at that meeting.
   16. If a Senator is removed from the Senate for any reason other than resignation, military service, or medical emergency, the Senator shall not be eligible to apply for or be appointed to the Senate again in the current session. ~~They may, however, be elected into the Senate in the fall election.~~ The removed Senator shall not be eligible to apply or be appointed to the Senate for future sessions unless the removed Senator files an appeal with the Supreme Court to gain the ability to run in the next session. The appeal cannot reinstate the removed senator for the current session and must strictly be for the ability to be appointed in the next session. No person who has been removed from office in the Student Government Association by the Senate under the Constitution shall be eligible to apply or be appointed to the Senate.
   17. If a Senator is removed from Senate by legislation, the senator must vacate their seat immediately and their vote will not be counted for future vote counts from that point in the meeting. The total number of Senators will decrease accordingly and the amount for quorum will be adjusted to reflect the new amount of Senators that are currently seated.
       1. If the senator’s removal causes a loss of quorum, the Senate meeting shall be ended due to lack of quorum and any legislation that occurs after the senator’s removal will be sent to Old Business in the following Senate meeting.

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

**­­­New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: B**    **February 28th, 2025**

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz

**ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 56037**

**Fifty–Sixth Session**

**Summary:** A resolution to call upon the Chief Justice to speak at the next scheduled Senate meeting.

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, Senate voted to pass SR56019 at the January 17th Senate Meeting to call up the Supreme Court to Senate to explain their lack of meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court appeared before the Senate on January 24th, 2025 to explain their lack of communication to the Senate; and

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court has met on the following Monday, January 27th, 2025 to discuss their course of action moving forward; and

WHEREAS, Senate has not heard any updates after the Supreme Court was supposed to meet; and

WHEREAS, the Code of Procedures is the main governing document of the Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, no notification of a current Code of Procedures has been made nor has any amended Code of Procedures been brought to the Senate; and

WHEREAS, the SGA Bylaws, Part I, Article IV, Section 1.C states that, “The Supreme Court shall review the NIU Student Code of Conduct at least every two (2) calendar years in accordance with the Supreme Court Code of Procedures and make recommendations to exclude or include policies. Changes to the SGA code of conduct must be approved by the Senate by a two-thirds vote and will be reflected in Appendix B of the bylaws.”; and

WHEREAS, the SGA Bylaws Article IV Section 3.C.3A states, “The Chief Justice shall supervise the Judicial Branch”; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Justice shall speak on behalf of the Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, the SGA Constitution, Article IV, Section 1.F states that the Senate has the power, “To require any official of the SGA or any official of any other student organization to testify at Senate or committee proceedings, after prior notification in writing.”; and

WHEREAS, receiving a report from the new Chief Justice will help the Senate to understand what are the current tasks and goals that the Supreme Court is currently working on;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby approve that the Chief Justice of the SGA Supreme Court be called up to Senate to give a report and update of the Supreme Court.

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

**­­­****New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: C**   **February 28th, 2025**

**Author:** Speaker Corpuz

**Sponsor:** Speaker Corpuz

**ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 56038**

**Fifty–Sixth Session**

**Summary:** A resolution to confirm a Director for Athletics

WHEREAS, Part I, Article III, §4.A of the Student Government Association Bylaws states that “The Student Government Association Cabinet is created by the President and exists for the purpose of assisting the president in the performance of their duties and responsibilities”; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article III, §4.B states that “All Directors shall be appointed by the President or Vice President and confirmed by the Senate”; and

WHEREAS, President Ja’Kobe Jones has appointed Damien Hepburn to serve as Director of Athletics; and

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 1.A of the Student Government Association Constitution states that, “Only the Senate shall have the power to authorize a person to be paid from student fee monies”; and

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby approve of Damien Hepburn to serve as Director of Athletics.

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