Student Government Association Senate

Northern Illinois University
Friday, November 6th, 2026 – 1:30 PM
Holmes Student Center – Sky Room

Members of the public wishing to give public comment, please submit an Intent to Speak form, no later than 11:59 pm, November 5th, 2026.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call
II. Verification of Quorum
III. Public Comments
IV. Approval of Minutes
    A. Senate Minutes 10.23.2026
V. Approval of Agenda
VI. Special Report
VII. NIU Police Report
VIII. Speaker's Report
IX. Office of the Speaker Report(s)
X. Committee Report(s)
XI. Executive Branch Report(s)
XII. Cabinet Report(s)
XIII. Old Business
    A. SB58016: A bill to add affiliation provisions to the Student Organization Policy
    B. SB58017: A bill to allow tier exceptions for Annual Funding
    C. SB58018: A bill to adjust the Judicial Board membership
    D. SB58019: A bill to standardize impeachment and removal procedures
    E. SB58020: A bill to clarify succession within the SGA
    F. SB58021: A bill to eliminate the Director of Athletics
    G. SB58022: A bill to reform Senator At-Large vacancies
XIV. New Business
    A. SR58022: A resolution to confirm a Treasurer
    B. SR58023: A resolution to confirm a Director of Athletics
XV. Good of the Order
XVI. Announcements
XVII. 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 Friday, October 30th, 2026
Author: Speaker Gonzalez, Organization Oversight Committee
Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez, Organization Oversight Committee

ENROLLED SENATE BILL 58016
Fifty–Eighth Session

Student Organization Affiliation Clarification Act

Summary: A bill to add an affiliation section to the Student Organization Policy

Legislation:
WHEREAS, the NIU SGA Bylaws – Student Organization Policy implies that student organizations are to be self-governing as they solely serve the interests of students enrolled at Northern Illinois University; and

WHEREAS, even if student organizations may be barred from receiving SGA funding the possibility remains open to them should they revise their governing documents that makes them eligible to receive funding from the SGA; and

WHEREAS, funding from student organization dereive

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II, §1.B of the Student Government Association Bylaws 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 the SGA Bylaws be amended as follows:

ARTICLE VIII
OVERSIGHT AND
ADMINISTRATION

~~A. All organizations recognized by the Student Government Association are responsible to the Student Government Association.~~
~~B. The Student Government Association, together with university staff responsible for organizational development, provide oversight and administration to all organizations recognized by the SGA.~~

Section 1
General Provisions
All recognized student organizations are the responsibility and purview of the Student Government Association. The Student Government Association, in conjunction with Student Involvement or the university, are tasked with the oversight and administration of recognized or prospective student organizations.

Section 2
Affiliation

Student organizations affiliated with any local, national, or international organization must specify the affiliated entity and extent of the relationship with the student organization within their governing documents. Student organizations that fall within this provision; that provide advice or recommendations within their own governing documents will be considered on a case-by-case basis by Organization Oversight Committee and Student Involvement. The following provisions do not apply to Greek student organizations, and any considerations will be handled by the Fraternity and Sorority Life Department.

A. Affiliated entities cannot use student organizations to bypass room reservations costs or procedures, secure SGA funding, or otherwise act as a front for the entity.

B. Affiliated entities cannot interfere in decisions that would otherwise jeopardize the democratic integrity of the organization, provide advice or expel any member of the student organization, and make decisions for the student organization.

This legislation is ordered to take immediate effect

Old Business **First Reading**
Agenda Item: B Friday, October 30th, 2026
Author: Speaker Gonzalez
Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez, Finance Committee
Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez, Finance Committee

ENROLLED SENATE BILL 58017
Fifty–Eighth Session

Tier Exception Act

Summary: A bill to allow tier exceptions for Annual Funding

Legislation:
WHEREAS, the NIU SGA Bylaws – Finance Policy imposes funding caps for student organizations requesting supplemental and annual funding which has been refined for clarity since their initial inclusion to the SGA Bylaws;

WHEREAS, Speaker Gonzalez has reviewed past actions of the Finance Committee prior to the implementation of tiers and found large requests with unclear criteria that determines budgets student organizations received; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Gonzalez has monitored the trends of annual funding from student organizations who have been consistent in their requests in recent memory and found most used their budget below tier thresholds; and

WHEREAS, there are some student organizations that historically and consistently use their annual budget and are forced to request supplemental funding impacting their operations since these changes over the span of multiple years; and

WHEREAS, due to recent changes to increase the cap on annual funding for some tiers or creating new tiers, Finance Committee has seen decrease in supplemental funding requests since they are not needed anymore due to increased annual budgets; and

WHEREAS, any new supplemental requests is due to specific circumstances or larger users of SGA funding that has their past budgets drastically cut since the implementation of tiers; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II, §1.B of the Student Government Association Bylaws 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 the SGA Bylaws be amended as follows:

ARTICLE III
ANNUAL BUDGET PROCESS

The following sections detail the timeline, process, and eligibility for submitting a budget proposal to the SGA for Annual Funding. All parties involved, including the SGA and organizations and departments requesting funding, mustabide by the procedures and timelines outlined in this process.

Section 1
General Timeline for Funding

The timeline for operation and consideration of requests for SGA Annual Funding is as follows:

A. Mandatory budget meetings shall be announced by end of the Fall semester.
B. Annual budget requests shall open no later than first week of the Spring semester
C. Finance Committee shall first consider annual budget requests no later than the second week of the Spring semester
D. Finance Committee shall approve annual funding by end of first week of April
E. Senate shall approve the Annual Budget no later than the last Senate meeting of the Spring semester.

~~The general timeline for the consideration and submission of budgets for SGA Annual Funding:~~

~~1. First Finance Committee meeting – fourth week of September~~
~~2. First Mandatory Budget meeting – second week of February~~
~~3. Finance Committee vote on subcategory funding levels – second meeting of the Spring semester~~
~~4. Finance Committee first meeting to consider budget proposals – first week of February~~
~~5. Final Annual Budget recommendation completed – first week in April~~
~~6. Final Senate approval of Annual Budget – last Senate meeting in Spring semester~~

Section 5
Budget Proposals

Following the budget meeting, organizations must prepare and submit a budget proposal to the SGA by the date outlined by the Treasurer and not in conflict with the SGA Bylaws. ~~a date set by the Treasurer and announced no later than the date of the first mandatory budget meeting. This date must not be later than the first business day of April.~~ Budget proposal packets must be made available by the SGA both in hard copy and online via the SGA's website. To apply for an annual budget or Supplemental Funding, an organization must be eligible in accordance with the Student Organization Policy and the Finance Policy, must not be serving a suspension issued by NIU or the SGA Treasurer, and must have attended one of the mandatory budget meetings.

A. Student organizations should include the following information in their budget proposal requests:
    1. List of completed events and associated costs, if any.
    2. Planned and estimated costs of future events/programing, if any.
    3. Copy of most recent approved or available governing documents
    4. Size of the organization
B. Student organizations may request Annual Funding above their tier if they meet the following qualifications and submit the materials.
    1. Have been funded annually for at least three (3) years consecutive years prior.
    2. Submit detailed budget report for previous three (3) years.
    3. Submit a written report at least two pages in length detailing (1) how they have utilized SGA funding, (2) how intend to use future SGA funding, and (3) how they have improved SGA or NIU
C. The SGA Treasurer will review to ensure the application is complete prior to forwarding the request to the SGA Finance Committee. If the proposal is not completed the Treasurer or Deputy Treasure shall make two (2) written attempts to contact the student organization for information before forwarding the request to Finance Committee for review.
D. The Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, or assigned delegate by the Treasurer may reach out to the student organization for more information at the Committee's request. The SGA Treasurer, Deputy Treasurer, or delegate must make two (2) written attempts to contact the student organization for information before deciding based on the submitted materials.

Section 6
Presentation of Budgets

Student organizations can appear before the SGA Finance Committee when their request is being considered to present their budget proposal and/or provide explanation. Otherwise, student organizations can rely on their completed electronic or paper annal budget proposal to serve as the presentation. Electronic budget proposals shall be submitted via NIU's Student Organization Platform.

~~A. Student organizations requesting Annual Funding must present their budget request before the Finance Committee according to their assigned SGA Finance Subcategory. Student organizations can rely on their submitted Annual Funding request which serves as their presentation. Requests can be a physical document or electronic such as NIU's Student Organization Platform. The SGA Finance Committee must begin reviewing annual funding applications no later than the second Finance Committee meeting of the Spring Semester.~~

~~B. The SGA Finance Committee will decide based on the submitted budget requests submitted to the committee. The SGA Treasurer or delegate assigned by the Treasurer may reach out to the student organization for more information before a final decision is made. The SGA Treasurer or delegate must make two (2) written attempts to contact the student organization for information before deciding based on the submitted materials.~~

Section 7
Finance Committee Recommendation

Following the completion of all budget proposal reviews, the SGA Finance Committee will deliberate and set recommendations for funding for each requester. These recommendations must be forwarded to the SGA Senate for its consideration no later than the first week in April in an omnibus funding bill. All student organization tier excessive requests must be heard by the Senate prior to the first week of April.

A. For Annual Funding requests that exceed the tier limit, the SGA Finance Committee shall review the proposal to determine if shall be sent to the SGA Senate for final approval or approved for lower amount within the Committee. The SGA Finance Committee must determine which requests can advance to the Senate by utilizing these standards:
    1. Is the organization's past and proposed expenditures follow the mission and purpose of the organization.
    2. Has the organization demonstrated substantial impact to the SGA and Northern Illinois University.
    3. Are the expenditures in the best interest of the SGA and Northern Illinois University
    4. Has the organization held an event focusing on NIU students or performed community service aligning with their mission.

B. The SGA Finance Committee can only determine if requests exceeding the tier should be brought to Senate in the amount requested or instead assessed for their tier level. If the SGA Finance Committee determines that the request is to remain within the tier, the organization shall be informed. There is no appeal.

Section 8
Tier Senate Approval

The SGA Finance Committee shall notify student organizations of Annual funding requests that exceed their tiers if they have advanced to the Senate. A resolution will be sent to the SGA Senate where the Senate will consider the request. The organization is required to have student representatives present at the Senate meeting where they can provide a speech lasting no longer than five (5) minutes explaining their rationale. The Senate can ask questions of the student organization.

A. Any member of the Senate who is apart of the organization can speak to the request but cannot vote in the approval or rejection of the request and must abstain.

B. Once there are no questions for the student organization, the organization will be directed to their seats. Senate shall deliberate the resolution and can recommend a rejection, lower amount or approval for the maximum tier. Any decision of the Senate is final. The resolution shall be passed as a simple majority.

C. If the resolution is tabled on their first and second reading, regardless of reasoning, it shall be considered to have failed, and the student organization will be awarded the maximum of their tier. Any resolution resent to Finance Committee shall be considered as tabling. If the resolution student organization will be awarded the maximum of their tier.

D. The decision of the SGA Senate for the student organization shall be included into the omnibus funding bill by the SGA Treasurer prior to full consideration of the SGA Senate.

Section 9 ~~8~~

Final Senate Approval

The Senate must approve of the final Annual Budget by the end of the spring semester. The Annual Budget must either be a balanced budget or a budget with a surplus.

This legislation is ordered to take immediate effect

New Business
Agenda Item: C
Author: Speaker Gonzalez
Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez

First Reading
Friday, October 30th, 2026

ENROLLED SENATE BILL 58018
Fifty–Eighth Session

Judicial Board Size Act

Summary: A bill to adjust the Judicial Board membership

Legislation:
WHEREAS, Senate at large vacancies is a streamlined process but it is not reflect in the SGA Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, consolidation of clauses and rephrasing of the vacancy procedures to make it clearer will help prospective students and the Office of the Speaker fully aware of the process for future SGA Sessions; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II, §1.B of the Student Government Association Bylaws 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 the SGA Bylaws be amended as follows:

SGA Constitution

ARTICLE V. THE JUDICIAL BOARD

All judicial authority of the Student Government Association shall be vested in the Judicial Board or "The Board". The responsibility of the Board shall be to preserve and protect the rights of students as expressed herein. All Judicial Board decisions are final.

Section 1. Charge of the Judicial Board

The Judicial Board will have a workload that balances integrity of the Student Government Association and oversight of student organizations. The Judicial Board has these powers:

A. Rule on the constitutionality of actions taken by the Legislative Branch or its members.

B. Rule on the constitutionality of actions taken by the Executive Branch or its members.

C. Rule on the constitutionality of any Executive orders issued by the President.

D. Rule on the constitutionality of actions taken by any SGA recognized student organization.

E. Rule and resolve matters pertaining to SGA recognized student organizations

F. Interpret the Constitution and Bylaws of SGA recognized student organizations

G. Decide the wording on referenda

H. Release opinions of cases within twenty-four (24) hours to parties involved, the Office of the President, and Office of the Speaker.

I. The Board cannot intervene on any election related dispute nor provide judgement.

Section 2. Board Selection

The Judicial Board will be made up of a total of five (5) ~~seven (7)~~ members, including the Chairperson of Board. All have the power to vote and decide on judicial matters. The Parliamentarian shall serve on the Judicial Board as an ex-officio non-voting member tasked with clerical and decorum duties.

A. The Speaker and the President shall serve on the Board.

~~B. One (1) appointee from the Legislative Branch selected by the Speaker and (1) appointee from the Executive branch selected by the President.~~

C. Three (3) seats are reserved for neutral members. These members are to be appointed by unanimous consent by the incoming elected or standing President, Speaker of the Senate, and current Chairperson of Board set by the SGA Bylaws. They must also be confirmed via a resolution by the Senate. If the Chairperson position is vacant, all two positions must continue.

D. A list called the "Reserve List" will be adopted and maintained by the Office of the Speaker. The list will have additional neutral members that can be called in for any recusals or vacancies. The list will be adopted at the beginning of each academic year by unanimous consent by the President, Speaker via the same mechanism as Neutral members. They must also be confirmed via a resolution by the Senate. If the Chairperson position is vacant, all two positions must continue.

E. If either the President, Speaker of the Senate, and current Chairperson of Board is unable to consent unanimously to candidates for the list or three (3) seats, the Senate shall be able to appoint and confirm members via a 2/3 majority within one (1) month of the beginning of the academic year.

F. All active members of the Board must sign a neutrality document, approved by the Senate.

G. Any member of the Board can be removed from their position by either vote of their fellow Board members in a two-thirds (2/3) vote or two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate. The Speaker and President can be removed from the Board but not in their position unless the resolution to remove them specifies as such as provides sufficient rationale. From there normal vacancy procedures shall take over for those positions.

H. Quorum of the Board shall follow Roberts Rules of Order.

Section 3. Code of Procedure

The Judicial Board shall have a Code of Procedures that governs the general duties, responsibilities, and procedures of the committee. This Code shall appear in the SGA Bylaws and be maintained as its own document. The Board shall review the Code of Procedures on an annual basis by the Spring semester. It can be amended like any aspect of the SGA Bylaws but must have approval from the Board or consent of the President, Speaker, and two-thirds majority of the Senate depending on circumstances clearly articulated to the Senate and all members.

SBA Bylaws

ARTICLE IV
Judicial Branch

Section 1
Appointment Procedures of the Judicial Board

A. The Judicial Board shall have a maximum of five (5) ~~seven (7) members~~. Quorum follows Robert's Rules of Order for all business activities of the Board.
   1. The SGA President shall be a Board member.
   2. The SGA Speaker of the Senate shall be a Board member.
   3. ~~The SGA President and SGA Speaker can each appoint one (1) member to the Board.~~
   4. The three (3) remaining vacant spots are to be left for Neutral Board members which includes the Chairperson of the Judicial Board.

B. When the Spring Elections have concluded and all appeals have been heard, the President-elect, Speaker-elect, and the current chairperson of the Board shall convene to oversee appointment of Board members. Appointments can be confirmed by the Senate in the session before the President and Speaker take office up until the end of September of the administration they are serving.

C. All Neutral members and Reserve list members are to be nominated unanimously by the President-elect, Speaker-elect, and current Chairperson of the Board. If one of those positions is vacant for any reason, then the remaining two individuals shall still be nominated unanimously.
   1. All nominations for Neutral members and Reserve list members shall be approved by the Senate in a two-thirds (2/3) vote.
   2. One of the nominations shall be designated as the Chairperson.

D. The Senate can appoint any Neutral member or Reserve list in place of the above procedures if:
   1. The President-elect, Speaker-elect, and Chairperson or otherwise are unable to nominate members by unanimous consent by the end of August of their new administration.

2. By written consent of any two members of the President, Speaker, or Chairperson. If one position is vacant then it shall be unanimous consent.
3. If there are still vacancies among the Neutral Members or the Reserve List prior to the second regularly scheduled meeting of the Senate in the month of September.

E. There shall be at least five (5) individuals on the Reserve List. There is shall be no more than ten (10) individuals on the Reserve List. Filling in vacancies on the Board shall be the priority before addressing Reserve List.

F. All Board members, except the President and Speaker, shall serve one-year terms with a two-year term limit. All Reserve List members shall serve for one nonrenewable two-year term. Any Reserve List member called to serve on the Board will have the new term limit apply to them as opposed to the prior statue.

G. Once a Reserve List member is called to serve to replace a vacant position, they shall be ineligible to return to the Reserve List. Members called to serve due to recusal return to the Reserve List. No Neutral Member who has served on the Board can be nominated to the Reserve List.

H. If there are any vacancies throughout the academic year the President, Speaker, and Chairperson shall follow these procedures to fill in the vacant position. If they are unable to nominate a replacement within fourteen (14) days for Senate consideration, the Senate shall take over filling in the vacancy.

This legislation is ordered to take immediate effect

Old Business
Agenda Item: D
Author: Speaker Gonzalez
Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez

First Reading
Friday, October 30th, 2026

ENROLLED SENATE BILL 58019
Fifty–Eighth Session

SGA Impeachment Reform Act

Summary: A bill to standardize impeachment and removal procedures

Legislation:

WHEREAS, the SGA Constitution and SGA Bylaws provides some framework on how SGA officials can be removed from office by the SGA Senate and who takes over their position; and

WHEREAS, the SGA Constitution outlines that the Speaker and the President can be removed, with the Chief Justice of the SGA Supreme Court presiding over their trail; and

WHEREAS, SB58005 abolished the SGA Supreme Court and all related personnel and replaced it with the SGA Judicial Board and the condition of the passed bill specifies that references to the Supreme Court are to be replaced with the Judicial Board; and

WHEREAS, the same SGA Constitution does not outline how any other SGA official is removed and directs it to the SGA Bylaws human resource policy which was updated in the 57th Session; and

WHEREAS, it is understood that a resolution for removal needs to be removed but does not specify the threshold for removal; and

WHEREAS, there needs to be more clarified procedures within the SGA Constitution or governing documents to account for scenarios that happened in recent memory; and

WHEREAS, the changes will allow for a more effective and efficient SGA should these situations arise in the future; and

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

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate resolve the SGA Constitution be amended as follows:

ARTICLE IV. THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section 5. Definition of Bills, Statutes, Proposed Resolutions, and Resolutions.

All request for a decision submitted to the Senate or any of its committees shall take one of the following two forms.

A. Any request for a decision submitted to the Senate or any of its committees regarding appointing or removing a person from office, adoption or amendments to the Senate Operating Rules, punishment or expulsion of senators, and appointments shall be considered a proposed resolution. Any request submitted to the Senate or any of its committees to make a declaration of its will or opinion binding or non-binding, utilizing or not SGA funds, forcing any SGA official to act officially or not, and affects the internal procedures of the Legislative Branch shall be considered a proposed resolution. Upon approval by the Senate the proposed resolution shall be considered a resolution of the Senate. All proposed changes to the Senate Operating Rules shall be considered proposed resolutions and, if passed, shall be considered a resolution of the Senate. All spelling, grammatical, formatting, punctuation, and redundancy changes to the Constitution may be made at the discretion of either the Speaker or the Vice President without the need for the changes to be presented in a resolution. A proposed resolution can be voted on the meeting of its first reading.

B. All requests for a decision submitted to the Senate or any of its committees that proposes amendments of the SGA Constitution, and Bylaws shall be considered a bill. When a bill is passed by the Senate and signed by the President it shall become a statute of the SGA. Except for spelling, grammatical, formatting, punctuation, and redundancy changes, all proposed changes to the Bylaws shall be considered bills and, if passed, shall be considered a statute of the SGA. All spelling, grammatical, formatting, punctuation, and redundancy changes to the Bylaws may be made at the discretion of either the Speaker or the Vice President without the need for the changes to be presented in a bill. It shall take two (2) weeks for any proposed bill to be voted on. The first week is the first reading with no vote of approval allowed. The second week shall be the second round of reading and can be voted for approval.

C. Resolutions only require a simple majority of the Senate to be considered binding. Bills require a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Senate. Any resolution that confirms an individual to serve as a member of officer of the SGA shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate. Any resolution that removes a member or officer of the SGA shall be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Senate.

D. The fact that a given bill may use or non-use terms such as “whereas” or “resolved” does not make it a proposed resolution; nor does the use or non-use of such terms in a proposed resolution make it a bill.

E. All proposed resolutions and bills must abide by the template found in the Senate Operating Manual. Only bills and resolutions being read for the first time may appear in New Business of the Senate agenda. Otherwise, all bills and resolutions tabled by a vote are automatically, including legislation that was sent to be edited and already read to the Senate, shall appear in Old Business in the Senate agenda.

E. Resolutions, bills, and petitions that fail may be brought back to the Senate for consideration

ARTICLE VII. IMPEACHMENT ~~REMOVAL FROM OFFICE~~

Section 1. Process of Impeachment

The Senate shall be empowered to remove any member of the SGA or SGA officials, elected or appointed to serve the Student Government Association. Removal is synonymous with impeachment. Removal of SGA officials can occur as outlined in the Human Resources policies or as prescribed in the SGA Constitution. A written petition shall be submitted to the Rules & Procedures Committee, which will submit the resolution to the Senate for consideration. The individual targeted for removal can provide a speech lasting no longer five (5) minutes to explain defense but may chose to waive the right. An individual is subject to questioning from the Senate but can refuse to answer any question.

Section 2. Process of Impeachment of the President or Speaker of the Senate

The Senate shall be empowered to remove the SGA President or Speaker of the Senate. A written petition from 40% of all SGA members or written petition at least half of total student participation in the last SGA Elections must be submitted to the Rules & Procedure Committee and the SGA Advisor. A resolution will automatically be set to the Senate for consideration. The individual targeted for removal can provide a speech lasting no longer five (5) minutes to explain defense but may choose to waive the right. An individual is subject to questioning from the Senate but can refuse to answer any question.

A. The Chairperson of the Judicial Board shall preside over their trial. If unavailable, the Vice President shall preside.

~~**Section 1. Process of Removal**~~

~~The Senate shall be empowered to remove any officer; senator; SGA representative; justice; student representative appointed or elected by any portion of the Student Body; SGA of the SGA or Speaker of the Senate is being tried, the Chief Justice shall preside over the Senate. The process for removal of any appointed or elected official in SGA is to be followed as written in the human resource policy outlined in the Student Government Association Bylaws Part I, Article IV, §3.~~

Section 3 ~~2~~. Reasons for Removal from Office

Proper reasons for Removal shall include but are not limited to the following: academic misconduct, failure to keep accurate records, financial misconduct, neglect of duty, abuse of the privileges of office, criminal behavior, and any other behavior that is deemed to be in violation with most current human resource policy as outlined in the Student Government Association Bylaws Part I, Article IV, §3.

BE FURTHER RESOLVED, that all instances in the SGA Bylaws regarding the removal of any SGA member or official be updated to reflect the new resolution threshold if it explicitly states any majority lower than two-thirds (2/3); and

BE FURTHER RESOLVED, any vague reference to passing of the resolution should include a stipulation to consult the resolution threshold set in the SGA Constitution, be made explicit, or left unrevised if it drastically adds more text to those sections; and

This legislation is ordered to take immediate effect

Old Business
Agenda Item: E
Author: Speaker Gonzalez
Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez

First Reading
Friday, October 30th, 2026

ENROLLED SENATE BILL 58020
Fifty–Eighth Session

SGA Succession Reform Act

Summary: A bill to clarify succession within the SGA

Legislation:
WHEREAS, the resignation of President Ja'Kobe Jones during the 57th Session created an unprecedented scare regarding Presidential succession addressed by legislation passed in the 57th Session; and

WHEREAS, the subsequent vacancy for the Spring 2026 semester when Vice President David Rivera assumed the presidency created unique challenges establish precedent via an Executive Order signed by President David Rivera; and

WHEREAS, the vacancy of the Treasurer during the 58th Session and subsequent Executive Order also created new challenges and precedent with President Leilani Rodriguez signing an Executive Order based of President Rivera's Executive Order; and

WHEREAS, there needs to be more clarified procedures within the SGA Constitution or governing documents to account for scenarios that happened in recent memory; and

WHEREAS, the changes will allow for a more effective and efficient SGA should these situations arise in the future; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II, §1.B of the Student Government Association Bylaws 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 the SGA Constitution and SGA Bylaws be amended as follows:

SGA Constitution

ARTICLE III. THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Section 4. Order of Succession

A. If the President shall resign, be removed, or otherwise vacant office before the expiration of their term the following procedures shall be followed. The Vice President will serve as President. If unable to or declines, the Treasurer shall serve as Interim President. If the

Treasurer is unable to or declines, the Speaker of the Senate shall serve as Interim President. In the instance that the Vice President, Treasurer or Speaker is unable to assume the Presidency, then an emergency meeting of all paid positions will convene an elect an Interim President by majority vote. The Senate shall appoint and confirm a new President if there is an Interim President. Any Executive Branch position that is vacant while the presidency is vacant shall remain vacant until filled by the new President, not by the Interim President.

B. The Interim President shall have all duties and responsibilities of the President excluding ~~including~~ appointments. They shall return to their previous position upon Senate's confirmation of the new President, unless they were confirmed to continue as President. If the Speaker should serve as Interim President, the Senate Line of Succession will be utilized.

C. If at any time the Vice President or the Treasurer shall resign, be removed, or otherwise leave office before the end of the term, the President shall appoint their replacements with the approval of the Senate. Consult the SGA Bylaws for specifications.

D. A majority of all executive Branch members who are paid a regular stipend may petition the Senate to remove an elected Executive Branch officer for incapacitation due to illness or other inability to perform their duties. The Senate may remove the person in accordance with the removal procedure proscribed herein.

E. Except as otherwise specified by this Constitution, all officers appointed to fill a vacancy shall hold office until the expiration of the term which is being filled.

SGA Bylaws

ARTICLE II
LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

Section 6
Senate Order of Succession

The Senate Order of Succession shall be activated when the Speaker position is left vacant due to resignation, removal, or any other reason. Should a person serve multiple roles in the Order of Succession, the highest position will apply and will not be considered for their other positions. Otherwise, should the Speaker of the Senate be unavailable to preside over a Senate meeting, the Order of Succession shall be activated to locate an individual to chair the meeting. The person will be given the ceremonial title of Temporary Speaker of the Senate until the Speaker returns. If there is no individual capable of presiding, the Speaker shall cancel the Senate meeting as outlined in the SGA Constitution.

A. The Senate Order of Succession is as follows:
    1. Deputy Speaker of the Senate
    2. Parliamentarian
    3. Chair of Organization Oversight Committee
    4. Chair of Public Affairs
    5. Chair of Campus and Academic Affairs
    6. Chair of Student Life & Greek Affairs
    7. Chair of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
    8. Most senior Senator determined by time in office

B. If the Speaker of the Senate assumes the role of Interim President, the Senate Order of Succession shall be

activated with the person taking over be called Acting Speaker of the Senate with full duties and responsibilities until the Speaker's returns. If the Speaker becomes the next President of the SGA, the current Acting Speaker of the Senate shall become Speaker. If the individual serving as the new Speaker of the Seante not already a paid SGA member, the Senate must approve of a resolution authorizing their pay.

C. If the Speaker of the Senate resigns, removes, or leaves the position vacant indefinitely, the Order of Succession shall activate with the person in line choosing to accept or decline the position. Should they decline, it shall go down to the list. The individual shall fulfill the remaining term of the Speaker of the Senate and be referred to as the Speaker of the Senate. If the individual serving as the new Speaker of the Seante not already a paid SGA member, the Senate must approve of a resolution authorizing their pay.

~~If at any time during their one-year term in office the Speaker of the Senate chooses by their own free will or is forced to step down from their position temporarily, the Temporary Speaker of the Senate will be chosen from the Senate Order of Succession and will serve until the vote has been finalized in the case of legislation, in which the Speaker of the Senate can assume the position once again. In the case that the Speaker is removed from their position or chooses to step down indefinitely, the Temporary Speaker of the Senate will be chosen from the Senate Order of Succession and will serve until the end of the term or choose to pass the position in line of the Senate Order of Succession. If a person serves multiple positions on the Senate Order of Succession, they will represent the highest position and shall not be eligible to be on the Order of Succession for any lower positions. The Senate order of Succession is as follows~~

~~1. Deputy Speaker of the Senate~~
~~2. Parliamentarian~~
~~3. Chair of Organization Oversight Committee~~
~~4. Chair of Public Affairs Committee~~
~~5. Chair of Student Life and Greek Affairs Committee~~
~~6. Chair of Campus Life Environmental Affairs Committee~~
~~7. Chair of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee~~
~~8. Most Senior Senator as determined by most amount of time in office.~~

ARTICLE III
EXECUTIVE BRANCH

Section 3
Vice Presidency Vacancy

Vice President Vacancy shall be activated if the Vice President resigns, is removed, or otherwise vacant. The President shall sign an Executive Order appointing anyone within the Executive Branch to serve as Acting Vice President until the President appoints and Senate confirms the replacement, Vice President. Appointment procedures shall follow the same standardized process as all other Executive Branch and Office of the Speaker appointments.

A. The President must make a determination for Acting Vice President within forty-eight (48) hours and inform the Speaker of the Senate and Executive Branch.

B. If the President does not feel satisfied by the current members of the Executive Branch to assume Acting Vice President, the President may sign an Executive Order delegating the duties and responsibilities of the Vice President amongst the Executive Branch until the President appoints and Senate confirms a replacement. The Speaker may assume some delegation determined by the President.

Section 4
Treasurer Succession

Treasurer Succession shall be activated if the Treasurer resigns, is removed, or otherwise vacant. The Deputy Treasurer shall assume the duties and responsibilities as Acting Treasurer. The President may appoint the Deputy

Treasurer as the replacement pending confirmation by the Senate. Should the President decide to appoint the Deputy Treasurer as the replacement Treasurer the standardized appointment procedures do not need to be followed. The President can decide to appoint another Treasurer and be confirmed by the Senate.

A. The President must make a determination for Acting Treasurer within forty-eight (48) hours and inform the Speaker of the Senate and Executive Branch.
B. If the Deputy Treasurer has been appointed but not yet confirmed by the Senate when the Treasurer position is vacant, they will not be allowed to proceed with their confirmation. The President may choose to appoint the Deputy Treasurer as Treasurer and be confirmed by the Senate. The standardized appointment procedures shall be bypassed. Otherwise, the Deputy Treasurer must be appointed by the newly confirmed Treasurer and confirmed by the Senate.
C. The President may appoint an Acting Treasurer from anyone within the Executive Branch and be confirmed with an Executive Order. The individual shall assume the duties and responsibilities as Acting Treasurer until the President appoints and Senate confirms a replacement.
D. If the President does not feel satisfied with the individuals in the Executive Branch, they can reach out to the Speaker of the Senate. The Speaker can choose to serve as Chairperson of the SGA Finance Committee with the duties and responsibilities of Treasurer delegated between the Speaker and the President. The Speaker can choose to appoint a member of the SGA Finance Committee to serve as Chairperson of the committee only in charge of presiding over the meeting. The President and Speaker shall assume the titles of Acting Treasurer.
E. An Acting Treasurer shall be prohibited from appointing a Deputy Treasurer.

This legislation is ordered to take effect on future vacancies. The current Acting Treasurer shall continue with old provisions until a new Treasurer is appointed and confirmed

Old Business **First Reading**
Agenda Item: F Friday, October 30th, 2026
Author: Speaker Gonzalez
Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez, President Rodriguez

ENROLLED SENATE BILL 58021
Fifty–Eighth Session

Director of Athletics Abolition Act

Summary: A bill to eliminate the Director of Athletics

Legislation:
WHEREAS, the Director of Athletics positions forms part of the President's Cabinet and advocating for athletic issues; and

WHEREAS, the workload of the Director of Athletics is unclear and there is no relationship with NIU Recreation or the athletics are of NIU meaning any attempts are grassroots with questionable progression of work; and

WHEREAS, Speaker Gonzalez and President Rodriguez has struggled to find any reason that warrants the position to remain and therefore both have agreed to eliminate the position; and

WHEREAS, this helps consolidate the President's Cabinet, especially as the Cabinet increased with the creation of the Director of Student Life and Director of Greek Affairs during the 58th Session; and

WHEREAS, any lingering responsibility will be transferred over to the new Director of Student Life; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II, §1.B of the Student Government Association Bylaws 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 the SGA Bylaws be amended as follows:

Section 2
Student Government Association Cabinet

A. 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 consistof 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.
B. 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.
C. All candidates for Directors, Chief of Staff, Deputy Treasurer, and Election Commissioner must apply for consideration by the President or Treasurer. The application process must be standardized across all SGA

appointment procedures and written records must be saved in a manner agreed by the President and Speaker. Otherwise, as set by the SGA Advisor. All applicants must abide by SGA qualification standards and be interviewed for proficiency, best fit, and general capabilities. Applicants must be informed if they were denied or accepted for appointment by email. Appointees are then to be forwarded to the Senate for confirmation.

1. Upon the conclusion of the Spring elections, the President-elect shall be able to see applicants and subsequently appoint the Chief of Staff or Directors for the following session. The Senate shall confirm such appointments and cannot end their regularly scheduled Senate sessions if the President made an appointment. The Treasurer-elect shall be able to seek applicants, interview, and appoint a Deputy Treasurer for the next session.
2. The President shall make every effort to fill cabinet vacancies as they arise. If a position remains vacant for more than five (5) 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.

D. The Cabinet shall be managed by the Chief of Staff and shall report to the President. All Cabinet members, regardless of their position:

1. Shall attend University functions where SGA attendance is needed at the direction of the President.
2. Shall assist in the transition of any new staff ~~as needed.~~
3. Shall create, maintain, and follow scheduled office hours. Hours must be scheduled no later than two (2) weeks after assumption of work and reported to the Chief of Staff, the President, and the Speaker of the Senate.
4. Shall participate in workshops, trainings, and retreats as directed by the President.
5. 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.
6. Shall attend meetings as directed by the President or Chief of Staff and submit weekly staff reports so they can be available upon request and present a minimum of one (1) report to the Senate each month either in writing or in person.
7. Shall perform other tasks as specified by the President.
8. Graduate assistants shall be eligible to apply for positions in the Executive Cabinet. If hired, they shall receive a comparable University graduate assistant stipend.
9. 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 if the position is vacant. Sixty percent (60%) votes are needed to overturn any Executive Order.
    1. If the vote fails, the opposition may write a petition to the Judicial Board of SGA to hear the case for overturning the Executive Order.

E. 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

1. 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.
2. Assist the President in the execution of the duties; this may include responding to inquiries made to the President.
3. Assist the President in appointing students to serve on university committees and coordinate oversight of these appointments.
4. Assist the President in staffing University events where SGA representation is needed, including but

notlimited to open houses.

5. Assist the President in coordinating staff evaluations for Senate review.
6. Assist the President in preparing the Executive Cabinet for Senate review and approval.
7. Act as a liaison among the President, Vice President, Chief Justice and Speaker of the Senate to ensure that alllegislation is signed and submitted to appropriate parties.
8. Coordinate with the Student Government Association Office Manager to ensure staff are provided accessto computers, office supplies, and the copy machine and that the SGA office is presentable and aesthetically pleasing.
9. Coordinate and keep track of all SGA inventories, including, but not limited to, SGA computers, cameras, printers, fax machines, laptops, and chairs.
10. Summarize the weekly staff reports into a weekly report to present to the President.
11. Update the Student Government Association staff manual annually.
12. Shall notify the President within twenty-four (24) hours of when they receive notice to overturn an Executive Order. They shall organize a hearing withing 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.

F. Director of Academic and Campus Affairs shall work under the direction of the President and Chief of staff promoting student wellbeing pertaining to academics, environmental quality, and general wellbeing. The Director supports campus initiatives and collaborates when necessary to campus partners.
   1. The Director shall coordinate with all SGA representatives serving on academic committees at their own direction or by the Speaker of the Senate or President.
   2. The Director shall oversee new or current SGA environmental initiatives, goals, or project in conjunction with the Academic and Campus Affairs Committee. This includes but not limited to Earth Week events, sustainability and recycling, green initiatives. Participation can also include other student organizations, University subdivisions, or community partners such as the City of DeKalb.
   3. The Director shall serve on the Provost Student Advisory Committee and any other committee that serves the academic interests of the student population that require SGA representation.
   4. The Director shall serve on Faculty Senate along with other SGA representatives. They shall also act as a liaison to all college councils and departments' student advisory committees and assist in the establishment of such committee if a department does not already have one and the students see fit for one. The Director shall also serve as liaison to academic offices including, but not limited to:
      1. University Honors Program
      2. CHANCE Program
      3. Business Passport
      4. Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning (OSEEL)
      5. Orientation and First Year Programs
   5. The Director shall monitor polices related to their duties and make recommendations to the President and the Campus and Academic Affairs Committee as appropriate.
   6. The Director shall serve as the Secretary of the Campus and Academic Committee, serving as a non-voting ex-officio member where attendance is mandatory. If the director fails to meet, they shall be subject to the same provisions of the Senate attendance policy including absence requests.

~~G. The Director of Athletics shall work under the Direction of the President and Chief of Staff to represent all student-athlete interests, promote athletic programs, and serve as a liaison between SGA and Athletics'. The aim is to relay student-athletic concerns while promoting inclusive, engaging, and competitive campus supports culture. Other responsibilities include:~~
   ~~1. The Director shall represent the Student Government Association in any committee or meeting with NIU Athletics including, but not limited to, varsity, club, or intramural sport teams. The purpose is to communicate student-athlete concerns, provide suggestions, and relay feedback to SGA Leadership.~~
   ~~2. The Director shall collaborate with student organizations and athletics to promote initiatives, engagement, or support to athletic programs.~~
   ~~3. The Director shall be knowledgeable, monitor, and review SGA or University policies and procedures and make recommendations that impact student-athletes, campus sport environment. They shall also~~

~~be informed and keep up with any legal statues proposed by local, State, or federal legislatures.~~

~~4. The Director shall work with the Director of Public Affairs to highlight and promote NIU Athletics.~~

~~5. The Director may attend any SGA Committee as a non-voting ex-officio member to provide reports or hear opinions but cannot participate in discussion or debate unless it relates to athletics, student wellness, or campus engagement.~~

H. The Director of Student Affairs, working under the direction of the President and Chief of Staff to bridge gaps between various student organizations, student groups, the SGA, and campus offices. Such bridge should serve to address and raise concerns related to housing, safety, campus services and student wellbeing. The Director also helps create events and initiatives that foster belonging, leadership, and engagement across campus. Other provisions include:

1. The Director shall act as the SGA's primary contact for university offices that impact student life, including Housing and Dining, Student Financial Aid, University Police, Judicial Affairs, and other student support services (such as Health Services, Legal Assistance, Commuter and Non-Traditional Student Office, and Campus Child Care).
2. The Director shall act as a liaison with Campus Activities Board and the rest of Student Involvement for planning and executing student programming in a consistent manner and messaging. They should also be concerned with overall student engagement and activities.
3. The Director shall serve on the Student Conduct Board and any other committees that align with Student Life and services. This includes advocating students' concerns regarding parking and transportation and coordinating with SGA representatives on the Campus Parking Committee.
4. The Director shall represent all student-athlete interests, promote athletic programs, and serve as a liaison between SGA and Athletics'. The aim is to relay student-athletic concerns while promoting inclusive, engaging, and competitive campus supports culture.
5. The Director shall attend the Student Life & Greek Affairs Committee as a non-voting ex-officio member to provide discussion or debate on topics where attendance is mandatory. The Chairperson of the Student Life and Greek Affairs Committee will rotate the responsibilities of secretary between the Director of Student Life and Director of Greek Affairs on a biweekly basis. If the director fails to meet, they shall be subject to the same provisions of the Senate attendance policy including absence requests.

I. The Director of Greek Affairs shall work to promote and advocate for the needs of Greek life in conjunction with the Fraternity and Sorority Department

1. The Director shall serve as a liaison to the Inter Fraternity Council (IFC), the NationalPan Hellenic Council (NPHC), Pan Hellenic Association (PHA), and the United Greek Council (UGC)student organizations.
2. Facilitate communication and coordination between the leadership of the Greek community
3. The Director shall serve to promote unity, collaboration, cooperation and between IFC, NPHC, PHA, and UGC through any means if initiatives. Such unity shall also be done in conjunction or adjacent with the Fraternity and Sorority Department.
4. The Director shall attend the Student Life & Greek Affairs Committee as a non-voting ex-officio member to provide discussion or debate on topics where attendance is mandatory. The Chairperson of the Student Life and Greek Affairs Committee will rotate the responsibilities of secretary between the Director of Student Life and Director of Greek Affairs on a biweekly basis. If the director fails to meet, they shall be subject to the same provisions of the Senate attendance policy including absence requests.

This legislation is ordered to take effect at the start of the 59th Session

Old Business
Agenda Item: G
Author: Speaker Gonzalez
Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez

First Reading
Friday, October 30th, 2026

ENROLLED SENATE BILL 58022
Fifty–Eighth Session

Vacancy Reform Act

Summary: A bill to reform Senate At-Large Vacancies

Legislation:
WHEREAS, Senate at large vacancies is a streamlined process but it is not reflect in the SGA Bylaws; and

WHEREAS, consolidation of clauses and rephrasing of the vacancy procedures to make it clearer will help prospective students and the Office of the Speaker fully aware of the process for future SGA Sessions; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article II, §1.B of the Student Government Association Bylaws 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 the SGA Bylaws be amended as follows:

Section 5
Senate Vacancies

Until all Senate seats have been filled as described in the Student Government Association Bylaws- Election Policy, the Speaker of the Senate shall accept applications for any vacancies in the SGA Senate. Vacancies cover all available seat open due to resignation, removal, unfilled during the SGA Elections, or those reserved for At-Large positions as described in the SGA Bylaws – Election Policy. Applications will not be taken from students who are graduating, or if there are only six (6) or less remaining regularly scheduled Senate meetings.

A. Prospective Senators shall file an electronic or paper application with the Speaker of the Senate seeking to fill one of those vacancies to the SGA Senate. The application shall be created by the Speaker of the Senate but be identical to those used by the Board of Elections in the prior election. All requirements mandated for Senatorial candidates outlined in the Election Policy and for SGA members must still be met and verified by the Office of the Speaker and Student Involvement. This includes GPA requirement, Conduct check, signature requirement, and proof of affiliation for Senate constituency. Students barred from SGA, if they were removed or terminated from office, will have their application rejected.
B. Upon completion and verification of an applicant, the Office of the Speaker may choose to refer the applicant to the Rules & Procedure Committee so that they can review the quality of the candidate via interview and review of submitted materials. If the Commit rejects the applicant, they can appeal the Judicial Board. The Committee must vote in a two-thirds (2/3) majority to reject an applicant and if so, inform the rejected applicant of the appeal process.
C. All candidates must attend one full SGA Senate meeting prior to their candidacy or approval by the Senate.

Candidates must verify attendance with the Parliamentarian or Speaker of the Senate prior to and after roll call. The Office of the Speaker may waive one of the roll call requirements based on circumstances. The Office of the Speaker will not accept candidates' attendance at a Senate meeting, even if they were present, but did not check in with the Speaker or Parliamentarian.

1. Applicants must give their presentation to the Senate within two (2) 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 for up to one (1) meeting.

D. No person on the applicant list can be skipped for consideration in the process unless:

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 ofthe 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 the current Senate session.

E. Upon successful advance and verification of all required materials, the Speaker of the Senate shall draft a resolution to the Senate for confirmation of the candidate. Each candidate shall be deliberated and approved in separate resolutions in order that their applications are submitted and successfully verified by the Office of the Speaker. The Senate procedures are as follows:

1. 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. After all questions have been answered by the candidate or the five (5) minutes have completed, the candidate will step down, and the Senate shall discuss and deliberate the candidate's qualifications for being a Senator. The candidate is allowed to sit in during any discussion; however they are prohibited from partaking in discussion or providing further reasoning of their qualifications during discussion. If the candidate continuously provides interruptions during discussion after receiving a warning from the Speaker, the candidate shall be removed from the meeting until the Senate closes discussion.
2. After the Senate closes discussion, each candidate will be voted on, requiring a two-thirds vote of all present and voting senators to be approved. If the applicant fails to receive the necessary number of votes, the applicant shall be denied from joining the Senate, but the applicant can still run for Senator in the Spring elections or apply again in the next session.
3. If a candidate is approved by the Senate, they shall automatically become a Senator and be granted full voting privileges.

F. 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 andcharacter and not on the views of the group(s) or organization(s) with which they are affiliated.

~~A. 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 theSenate. Vacancies shall include all seats in which a Senator has resigned or been removed, or the seat was not originally filled during the initial 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 six (6) 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 the current Senate session.

B. The Senate will interview each applicant in order of each open seat. The Senate Speaker will introduce all applicants who meet the current Senate seat replacement criteria to the Senate.

C. 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. Applicants will not be allowed to advance if they are not in good academic standing.
3. Re-entering students shall be eligible for candidacy for Student Government Association posts. Re-entering students are not eligible for any Student Government Association posts if they have been previously removed from their position in a prior session, unless the Judicial Board has met and voted to allow the student to reapply for the next session.
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 two (2) 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 for up to one (1) meeting.
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. 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.
8. 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.
9. 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. Each applicant will be considered separately during the Senate meeting. For each application, the Speaker shall submit a separate resolution for each applicant which is to be the way for Senators to vote on the applicant.
10. 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. After all questions have been answered by the candidate or the five (5) minutes have completed, the candidate will step down and the Senate shall discuss and deliberate the candidate's qualifications for being a Senator. The candidate is allowed to sit in during any discussion, however they are prohibited from partaking in discussion or providing further reasoning of their qualifications during discussion. If the candidate continuously provides interruptions during discussion after receiving a warning from the Speaker, the candidate shall be removed from the meeting until the Senate closes discussion.
11. After the Senate closes discussion, each candidate will be voted on, requiring a two-thirds vote of all present and voting senators to be approved. If the applicant fails to receive the necessary amount of votes, the applicant shall be denied from joining the Senate, but the applicant can still run for Senator in the Spring elections or apply again in the next session.
12. 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.~~

~~13. The newly approved Senators will take office immediately after the voting has taken place.~~

This legislation is ordered to take immediate effect

New Business **First Reading**
Agenda Item: A Friday, October 30th, 2026
Author: Speaker Gonzalez
Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez, President Rodriguez

ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 58022
Fifty–Eighth Session

Treasurer Confirmation Act

Summary: A resolution to confirm the SGA Treasurer

Legislation:

WHEREAS, Article III, §4.C of the Student Government Association Constitution states that "C. If at any time the Vice President or the Treasurer shall resign, be removed, or otherwise leave office before the end of the term, the President shall appoint their replacements with the approval of the Senate"; and

WHEREAS, elected Treasurer Nicholas Gambino employment and participation was terminated by President Leilani Rodriguez

WHEREAS, President Leilani Rodriguez has nominated Keon Travis to serve as SGA Treasurer; and

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby approve of Keon Travis to serve as Treasurer for the 58th Session.

This resolution is ordered to take immediate effect.

New Business **First Reading**
Agenda Item: B Friday, October 30th, 2026
Author: Speaker Gonzalez
Sponsor: Speaker Gonzalez, President Rodriguez

ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 58022
Fifty–Eighth Session

Director of Athletics Confirmation Act

Summary: A resolution to confirm the Director of Athletics

Legislation:
WHEREAS, 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 Leilani Rodriguez has appointed Paul Ali to serve as Director of Atheltics; 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 Paul Ali 36to serve as Director of Athletics for the 58th Session.

This resolution is ordered to take immediate effect.