



BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Student Leader Training Retreat

August 21, 2014

LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Participants will:
 - Be able to differentiate between a Bill and Resolution
 - Understand how to appropriately format legislation, so that it is effective, clear, and concise



BILLS

- Legislation that amends existing UBSGA policies and/or procedures
- May be originated by any person or group, including, but not limited to students, organizations, committees, etc.
- Must be sponsored by a Senator
- Determine the Bill type
 - Budget
 - Sets or modifies the budget associated with the Legislative Branch
 - Finance
 - Authorizes or instructs the expenditure of funds previously budgeted
 - Senate
 - Amends the Bylaws and/or other legislations of the UBSGA
 - Government
 - Amends the Constitution of the UBSGA
 - Note: Bills associated with money must follow UBSGA Funding Guidelines



VOTING ON A BILL

- The final vote on all amendments to bills shall be by either hand vote or by voice vote. A roll call vote can be requested
- The final vote on all bills shall be by roll call vote. A secret ballot vote can be requested
- Majority vote is required to adopt or amend all bills



RESOLUTIONS

- Statements expressing the opinion of the UBSGA opinion, on behalf of the student body
- Must have an originator and a sponsor.
 - May be originated by any person or group can originate, including, but not limited students, organizations, committees, etc.
- Must be sponsored by a Senator
- Cannot be used to allocate money



VOTING ON A RESOLUTION

- Resolutions shall require a majority vote of the Senate and the signature of the Vice President and President
- The final vote on all resolutions shall be by either hand vote or by voice vote
- Majority vote is required to adopt or amend all resolutions



FORMATTING

Bills

- Typed
- Submitted at least two (2) days prior to the next Senate meeting
- Titled, centered on the first page
- Each line of text must be numbered
- Numbered using the following format: Bill # SP- 01-12
 - Bill #:
 - FA (Fall), SP (Spring)
 - Arabic Numeral
 - Numbered consecutively for one year beginning with the fall
 - Year
- On the top left corner of the first page the words, “DATE INTRODUCED,” under which shall be the words, “DATE VOTED UPON”

Resolutions

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WHEREAS CLAUSE

- Declaratory provisions
- Outline why your piece of legislation should be passed
 - 3 – 4 reasons why people should consider what you are suggesting
 - Brief – one to two sentences each
- The whereas clauses are meant to be read as one long sentence, not separate pieces
 - Only the last whereas clause should end with a period (.), all previous clauses should end with a semi-colon (;)
 - Whereas Clauses following the first should begin with “and,”



THEREFORE CLAUSE

- “Therefore, let it be enacted that:”
 - Call to action – explains what you wish to be done
- Sections
 - Statements explaining what you wish to be done
 - Each section must be completed using complete sentences and appropriate punctuation
 - Aligns with the Whereas Clause(s) and Therefore Clause
 - Section 1: States the changes that you wish to make to an existing University or UBSGA policy
 - Section 2: Define any terms that may need clarification
 - Additional Sections: Further explain your legislation
 - Each additional topic should be explained in its own section, including, but not limited to
 - Advising/Supervision
 - Funding
 - Penalties for noncompliance
 - Anything else that is relevant to your piece of legislation
 - Last Section: States when the legislation will take effect
 - “This shall take effect upon ratification of this document ...”
 - “This will take effect in X days after passage of the ...”



BILL EXAMPLE

2nd General Assembly of the
University of Baltimore
Student Government Association
Academic Year: 2013 - 2014



Date Introduced: _____

Date Voted Upon: _____

Summer Constitutional Review Committee

Bill # SP-16-14

Prime Sponsor(s): Senator Bond

Cosponsor(s): Senator Parnell

Committee: SGA

Bill Type: ☐ Budget Bill ☐ Finance Bill ☐ Senate Bill ☐ Government Bill

WHEREAS, The University of Baltimore Student Government Association (UBSGA) Constitution has revealed, throughout the 2013-2014 academic year, there are many problems which have stifled the efficiency and functionality of the SGA. The constitution has failed to provide clarification on major issues that could have solved disputes swiftly and it has created an environment of uncertainty which affects the members of the SGA Senate and Executive Board.

WHEREAS, The UBSGA Constitution has created unintended loopholes, that pose a threat to the integrity of the SGA. Where common sense ideas would have passed and upheld the constitution tied the Senate's hands.

THEREFORE LET IT BE ENACTED THAT:

SECTION 1. A Workgroup is to be formed, known as the Constitutional Review Committee (CRC). This committee, which will only be active during the Summer semester of the 2013-2014 academic year, will be charged with reviewing and editing the current UBSGA Constitution. These changes will be voted upon by the incoming Senate class and ratified into binding perpetuity henceforth. This vote shall take place at the last Senate meeting preceding the start of the Fall 2014 semester. Should that meeting be canceled, the vote will take place at the first subsequent Senate meeting. It will require a 51% majority vote to take effect. Should the vote fail, the workgroup will continue to address changes and present them at each subsequent meeting until they are agreed upon by the Senate and voted into effect. Should there be no consensus by the end of the third meeting of the Senate during the Fall 2014 semester, the SGA advisor or Director of Student Affairs will enact the constitution into effect until the Summer of 2015 when a new committee must be formed to correct any issues that prevented ratification within the first three Fall 2014 semester Senate meetings.

SECTION 2. The committee will be overseen and chaired by the SGA Advisor or the Director of Student Affairs should the former not be appointed at the time of the first CRC meeting. The workgroup shall be comprised of nine persons not including the Chair: at least one-third, yet no more than half, of the committee shall be comprised of student leaders/appointees from other student groups and past SGA members who are not actively serving the SGA, whereas the rest of the seats shall consist of active SGA members. Of the active SGA members the Vice-President shall be compelled to serve on this workgroup and serve as Vice-Chair. Those persons appointed to the workgroup shall be confirmed at the discretion

SGA Vice President

SGA President

Date of Signing: _____

Date of Signing: _____

2nd General Assembly of the
University of Baltimore
Student Government Association
Academic Year: 2013 - 2014



Date Introduced: _____

Date Voted Upon: _____

of the SGA advisor. Any override or veto of the SGA advisor's appointees will require a 2/3 Senate majority vote.

SECTION 3. Upon ratification of the new Constitutional document, CRC shall dissolve. Should the CRC not secure ratification by the conclusion of the third Fall 2014 semester Senate meeting, the power to enact into effect will be transferred to the SGA Advisor or the Director of Student Affairs. The SGA Advisor or the Director of Student Affairs is compelled to enact the revised Constitution into effect prior to the start of the fourth Fall 2014 semester Senate meeting.

ACTION TAKEN:

SGA Vice President

SGA President

Date of Signing: _____

Date of Signing: _____

RESOLUTION EXAMPLE

Date Introduced: March 12, 2014

Date Voted Upon: _____

2nd General Assembly of the
University of Baltimore
Student Government Association
Academic Year: 2013 - 2014



Game Room Relocation and Advancement

Resolution # SP - 05 - 14

Prime Sponsor(s): Senator Bond
Cosponsor(s): Senator Parnell, Senator Dennison
Committee: Campus Life

WHEREAS, The Game Room in SC 003 has seen enormous growth in usage by the Student Population since the Fall Semester of 2010. It is also projected to overall have a 167% Increase in usage this year over last year. This increased usage of the Game Room leads to safety concerns of the students and also indirect misuse of equipment due to the overcrowding of the area.

WHEREAS, The Cafeteria Area on the second floor of the Student Center, has been vastly under used outside of Student Organized Events. This area holds much promise and gives the Student Population the adequate space it needs.

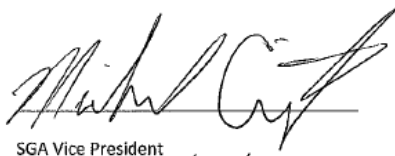
THEREFORE LET IT BE ENACTED THAT:

SECTION 1. The Student Government Association calls on the University of Baltimore to begin the process of transferring the Game Room in SC 003 to a big space to accommodate the rising usage of the area by the Student Population. Preferably, this area will be the Second Floor of the Student Center.

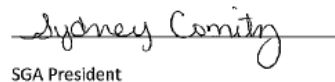
SECTION 2. The SGA calls on the University of Baltimore to update and advance equipment meant for the Game Room to coincide with the technology and taste of the students.

SECTION 3. The University of Baltimore shall keep the SGA informed of progress involving this endeavor, while also looking to us and the Student Population for help and ideas in achieving this goal. Tangible evidence of this should be seen before the last Senate Session of the 2013-2014 Year.

ACTION TAKEN:


SGA Vice President

Date of Signing: 3/3/14


SGA President

Date of Signing: 3/31/14