

First Reading: November 14th, 2017
Second Reading: November 28th, 2017

Pass:

Fail:

Other:

Bill 32-17-F To Support the Removal of the First Reading of Legislation

PURPOSE: For the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University to amend the Bylaws to remove the first read of new legislation to expedite the passing of legislation.

WHEREAS: While the use of multiple reading periods is crucial on the state and national level in passing complicated pieces of legislation, it has become a barrier in our SGA in solidifying legislation in a timely fashion, and

WHEREAS: We want to encourage individuals outside of SGA to write legislation, yet having to wait a week to vote on legislation can make it difficult to get those people here again if the legislation is not moved out of the Bylaws, and

WHEREAS: By removing the first read, we would be able to allocate more time to debate, and we would not have to worry about the time-consuming process of moving out of the Bylaws whenever time-sensitive legislation is brought to the table, and

WHEREAS: Section 5.2.2 of the Constitution, which says, “Collect and review all proposed legislation prior to the second reading before the Senate.” will read, “Collect and review all proposed legislation prior to the reading before the Senate.”, and

WHEREAS: Section 4.1.8 of the Bylaws, which reads, “Unfinished Business. Items considered at this time shall include items which have received first reading at the previous meeting.” will be removed, and

WHEREAS: Section 4.1.9 of the Bylaws, which reads, “New Business. Items considered at this time shall include any new business to come before the Senate including first readings of bills and resolutions.” will read, “New Business. Items considered at this time shall include any new business to come before the Senate,” and

WHEREAS: Section 5.3 of the Bylaws, which details the Stages of Proposed Legislation, will be edited, and

WHEREAS: Section 5.3.1 of the Bylaws, which reads, “...referred to the LRC after the first reading before the Senate...”, will read, “...referred to the LRC before being submitted for reading before the Senate,” and

WHEREAS: Section 5.3.4 of the Bylaws, which reads, “All legislation shall go through two readings; on the second reading, the author, or his designated representative, may speak in support of the legislation.”, will read, “All legislation shall go through one reading; during the reading, the author, or his designated representative, may speak in support of the legislation,” and

WHEREAS: Despite the multiple Bylaw changes, the whole essence of the resolution is to remove the first read of legislation in favor of efficiency.

THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Government Association of Western Kentucky University amend the Bylaws to remove the first read of new legislation to expedite the passing of legislation.

AUTHOR: Ian Hamilton, Senator-at-Large

SPONSOR: Sustainability Committee

CONTACTS: Jordan Tackett, Senator-At-Large
Deekshita Madas, Senator-At-Large
Anna McAvoy, Senator-At-Large
Savannah Reynolds, Sophomore Senator
Kenan Mujkanovic, Senator-At-Large