

1 **Associated Student Government**
2 *University of Arkansas*



3
4 *ASG Senate Bill No. 4*

5 Author(s): Parliamentarian Jackson Terrell, Chair of Senate Gabi Gies

6 Sponsor(s): Senator Logan Martin, Senator Dom Armijo, Senator Bryson Austin,
7 Senator Ashley Waters, Senator Brandon Gibbins, Senator Ky
8 Mengler
9

10 **A Bill to Establish a Parliamentary Procedure System for ASG Senate**

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12 Whereas, The 2022-2023 Senate Standing Rules requires that Senate
13 meetings be conducted using parliamentary procedure; and
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15 Whereas, The Senate Standing Rules did not list a parliamentary
16 authority by which meetings must be conducted; and
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18 Whereas, It is increasingly common that organizations have their own
19 parliamentary rules to fit the needs of their organizations;
20

21 Be it therefore resolved: The following be adopted as the parliamentary
22 authority for the 2022-2023 ASG Senate.
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24 **ASG Senate Parliamentary Procedure**

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26 **Article I: Purpose**
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28 **I. Statement of Purpose:** Parliamentary procedure has, for centuries,
29 been the governing authority for legislative bodies, kept them in order,
30 and allowed the business of organizations, communities, and nations to
31 be carried out in an efficient and formal manner which lends gravitas
32 fitting of the work being done. However, as those noted
33 parliamentarians throughout history have realized, trying to apply a
34 standard form of parliamentary procedure to a body with its own styles
35 and intricacies is neither formal, nor efficient. Therefore, these rules
36 are deemed appropriate for the efficient operation of the ASG Senate,
37 while retaining the formality of traditional parliamentary procedure
38 rules.
39

40 **Article II: Motions**
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42 **I. Motions:** Most actions the Senate takes require a motion. A motion
43 may be asked for by the Chair, or offered by a Senator when the need
44 arises, regardless of whether or not the Chair has expressed the need
45 for one. A motion may be made by a Senator raising their placard,

46 being recognized by the Chair, and the motion being offered by the
47 recognized member.

48

49 **II. Seconding a Motion:** A second is considered a show of support for a
50 motion that is made by at least one other Senator. All motions require a
51 second, and seconds will be made in the same way; with a raised
52 placard and recognition by the Chair so that proper notation of
53 motions and seconds may be made by the Legislative Clerk in the
54 meeting minutes. If a motion requires a vote, the Chair will then
55 conduct the vote and rule on the motion.

56

57 **Article III: Motions Relating to Meeting Order**

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59 **I. Motion to Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn ends the Senate meeting
60 immediately upon its passage. The motion requires a majority vote,
61 taken via voice vote unless a motion is made to the contrary. It may
62 interrupt the speaker and will be immediately voted on without debate.
63 The Chair may veto the motion to adjourn, requiring a two-thirds
64 majority roll-call vote to overturn the veto.

65

66 **II. Motion to Fix Adjournment:** A motion to fix adjournment places a
67 specific time at which the Senate meeting will end. It requires a
68 specified time for adjournment, it may not be debated, and requires a
69 two-thirds majority of present Senators to pass. The Chair will
70 immediately end the meeting at the end of the meeting time.

71

72 **III. Motion to Recess:** If the need arises, a Senator may call for a recess,
73 which must be offered with intent (to allow a committee to meet in the
74 circumstance that a bill is introduced late, an amended agenda, etc.)
75 and a length of time (five minutes, ten minutes, etc.). The motion is not
76 debatable, may interrupt a speaker, and the Chair will simply rule on
77 the motion immediately.

78

79 **IV. Motion to Amend the Agenda:** A motion to amend the agenda may
80 be made by any member of the Senate only upon the request of the
81 Chair. Any motion to amend the agenda without the request or consent
82 of the Chair will be ruled out of order. This motion must have a second
83 and can be adopted by unanimous consent or by placard vote.
84 Following an amendment of the agenda, a member may motion to
85 recess for a few minutes to read the legislation which was amended to
86 the agenda.

87

88 **V. Motion to Limit Debate:** Debate may be limited to a certain total
89 length of time by a motion to limit debate. A motion to limit debate
90 may not interrupt a speaker, does not require debate, and requires a
91 simple majority of present Senators to pass. The motion must be
92 offered with a specified time limit (five minutes, ten minutes, etc.).

93 Upon the passage of such a motion, the Parliamentarian will keep time
94 for debate and the Chair will move to end debate following the
95 expiration of time.
96

97 **VI. Motion to End Debate:** Debate on a piece of legislation may be
98 ended with a motion to that effect. It does not require debate itself,
99 may not interrupt a speaker, and requires a two-thirds majority of the
100 Senators present to pass. Upon its passage, debate on the item under
101 consideration will immediately end, if necessary, the body will move
102 into voting procedure on the item under consideration.
103

104 **VII. Motion to Suspend the Rules:** A motion to suspend the rules may
105 be made at any time by any Senator. The motion must be offered with
106 intent (in order to consider an item out of order on the agenda, invoke
107 Section 11 of the Senate Standing Rules, etc.) and will be automatically
108 reinstated after the business for which the rules were suspended is
109 disposed of. This motion may not interrupt a speaker, requires a two-
110 thirds majority of all present Senators, and may be debated with one
111 speaker each for favor and opposition. If intent is too vague, the Chair
112 may rule the motion out of order.
113

114 **VIII. Motion for a Roll Call Vote:** In situations where motions require a
115 voice vote, a Senator may make a motion for a roll call vote, at which
116 point the Legislative Clerk will call roll and Senators will vote one by
117 one. This motion is not subject to debate, may interrupt a speaker, and
118 will trigger a roll call vote on the motion for which it was made. Roll
119 call votes cannot be called for legislative voting.
120

121 **IX. Motion to Reconsider:** If a Senator disagrees with a decision made
122 by the Chair, that Senator may motion to reconsider, at which point the
123 whole of present Senators will vote on the decision of the Chair
124 immediately. This motion may be made at any time, may interrupt any
125 speaker, and allows debate. A vote will immediately be taken to
126 overrule the decision of the Chair, and a two-thirds majority is required
127 for passage.
128

129 **Article IV: Motions Relating to Legislation**

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131 **I. Motion to Table a Piece of Legislation:** A motion to table a piece
132 of legislation is considered a suppression of legislation without debate
133 and can be made to any legislation at any time after its introduction. It
134 may not interrupt someone else who is speaking. A motion to table
135 must be accompanied by a time at which the legislation is to be
136 reconsidered (until the next meeting, indefinitely, three weeks, etc.). It
137 also allows debate, with one Senator speaking in favor of the motion
138 and one in opposition to the motion. It then requires a simple majority
139 of the Senators present to pass.

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II. Motion to Take from the Table: A piece of legislation which has been tabled indefinitely may be brought from the Table by a vote to take from the Table. This motion may be made at any time and is not debatable. It may not interrupt a speaker and requires a simple majority of present Senators to pass, at which time the legislation will be reintroduced as if it were being introduced for its second reading, unless rules are suspended requiring two full readings before it may be voted on.

III. Motion to Postpone Consideration: Under certain circumstances, items of business may require further work, information, or otherwise more context. In these cases, a motion to postpone consideration may be made. Unlike tabling legislation, postponement is qualitative, requiring a condition under which the item may be brought before the body for consideration. It is up to the legislative sponsors or author to inform the Chair that the condition offered in the motion has been met, so that the item may be reoffered. It requires a speaker in favor and opposition, may not interrupt a speaker, and requires a simple majority of Senators present to pass.

IV. Motion to Amend: A motion to offer an amendment may be made at any point after a piece of legislation is introduced. The motion must be accompanied with suggested changes offered to specific lines. It may not interrupt a speaker, it requires one speaker for and against, and a simple majority of present Senators to pass.

Article V: Amending Legislation

I. Author Offered Amendments: An amendment may be offered at any point following the first reading of a piece of legislation. In the time of questions given following the first reading, amendments may be offered by the author, at which point the bill will simply be changed to reflect the amendment.

II. Deadlines for Amendments: Following the referral of a bill to committee, bills may only be amended by the Senate body or upon the recommendation of a committee, following the process outlined in Article IV Section IV of these rules.

III. Committee-Offered Amendments: As part of their reports, committees may recommend amendments to legislation. These amendments must be motioned for by a Senator and will follow the process outlined in Article IV Section IV of these rules.

Article VI: Speaking Rights

- 185 **I. The Question:** Speakers must restrict their comments to the question
186 being considered. Comments which deal with issues other than the
187 question under consideration will be considered out of order.
188
- 189 **II. Assumption of Speaking Rights:** The Chair is assumed to have the
190 floor when the floor has not been yielded to another member.
191
- 192 **III. Yielding the Floor:** Any member who is holding the floor may yield
193 their time to anyone else in the chamber. Yielding does not reset time
194 limits.
195
- 196 **IV. Special Reports:** Speaking rights do not need to be conferred by the
197 Chair to someone who is listed for special reports. The Chair need only
198 recognize the person listed to give their report.
199
- 200 **V. Impartial Comments:** Comments for the purpose of guidance or
201 clarification may be offered under the authorization of the Chair
202 without the need for a yielded speaker's time or time limits. These
203 comments are only allowed at the Chair's discretion.
204
- 205 **VI. Speaker Time:** Speaker time is to strictly follow the limit set by the
206 Chair or agenda, enforced by the Parliamentarian. Speaker time may be
207 extended once, not to exceed the original time limit.
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210 **Article VII: Points and Privileges**
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- 212 **I. Points:** Points may be made to express the need of a Senator for a
213 certain action to be taken, a question to be answered, or a request to be
214 granted. They are made to the Chair, may always interrupt a speaker,
215 and do not require debate or a vote, as they are separate from a motion.
216
- 217 **II. Point of Information:** Should a member need clarification on a
218 matter being considered, that Senator can make a point of information
219 to the Chair, and the Chair may answer it. If the Chair does not feel
220 capable of answering the question, the Chair may yield to someone in
221 the chamber for a question. Points of information may interrupt a
222 speaker.
223
- 224 **III. Point of Order:** In the event of a mistake or other infraction of the
225 Senate Standing Rules or a violation of Parliamentary Procedure
226 guidelines, a Senator may call a point of order to correct the error. The
227 Chair will rule the point either disorderly or orderly and will, if needed,
228 issue a correction.
229

230 **IV. Point of Privilege:** Should a Senator have a personal need, such as
231 needing leave of the chamber, they may make a point of privilege to the
232 Chair.

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234 **Article VIII: Committee Referrals**

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236 I. **Committee Referrals:** The Chair of Senate will inform the Senate, after
237 the first reading of a piece of legislation, of a decision regarding which
238 committees that legislation should be referred to. This is done at the
239 prerogative of the Chair. It is not subject to a motion to reconsider.

240

241 **Article IV: Constitutionality**

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243 I. **Constitutionality:** Pursuant to Article III Section 5 Subsection O Point B
244 of the ASG Constitution, these rules have been derived from the latest
245 edition of Robert's Rules of Order and have simply been condensed and
246 simplified for the sake of the orderly operation of the Senate.

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248 Be it further resolved: These rules be added to the 2022-2023 Senate
249 Standing Rules and future Standing Rules.

250

251 Be it finally resolved: A copy of this bill be sent to Chief Justice Anna
252 Roach.

253 *Official Use Only*

254

255 Amendments: _____


256

257 Vote Count: Aye 45 Nay 0 Abstentions 0

258

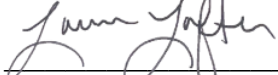
259 Legislation Status: **Passed** Failed Other

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261  _____ 11-1-22 _____

262 Gabrielle Gies, ASG Chair of the Senate Date

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264  _____ 11-1-22 _____

265 Lauren Loften, ASG President Date

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