



**Undergraduate
Student Government**

**UNIVERSITY OF IOWA STUDENT GOVERNMENT
Legislative Session 2022-2023
Student Senate
S.S.B.27**

Sponsor: Senator Mohanty, Senator Bartlett
Student Senate Action Passed Failed/Tabled
Referred To: Internal Affairs

A Bill

To establish and reinforce senate engagement expectations for the 2022-2023 Senate session

Section 1. Short Title

This resolution may be cited as “Senate Engagement Package”

Section 2. Discussion

Whereas, unexcused absences remain a standing issue within USG as an organization.

Whereas, as outlined in the USG governing documents, it is the duty of the Speaker Pro Tempore to track attendance for general Senate meetings.

Whereas, the USG governing documents state that attending general Senate meetings is a part of the duties of any senatorial or executive position.

Whereas, the Senate Conduct Committee shall be comprised of the Speaker of the Senate, the Internal Affairs Chair, and/or the USG advisor, as specified in Article II, Section B (2)(5), of the USG bylaws.

Whereas, the Senate Conduct Appeals Committee shall be comprised of the four non-chair members of the Internal Affairs committee, with the Speaker Pro Tempore of the Student Senate serving as the fifth voting member of the committee, as outlined in Article II, Section B, (2)(7), of the USG bylaws.

Whereas, there is currently no conduct policy in place for senators who fail to vote on legislation at meetings which they attend.

Section 3. Action

Be it enacted, after a senator's first unexcused absence, they shall receive a written warning from the Speaker Pro Tempore - including both the Speaker of the Senate and the Internal Affairs Chair on the communication - informing them of their attendance status.

Be it further enacted, when a seated senator accumulates two (2) unexcused absences, as defined in the previous section, they shall be subject to a conduct meeting (not immediate termination), organized by the Speaker, Internal Affairs Chair, and/or a USG Advisor.

Therefore, Article II, Section B, (2)(1), shall read:

1. **Senators shall be subject to a conduct meeting after two unexcused absences from Student Senate sessions. This conduct meeting may or may not result in the termination of a senator's position, depending on the severity and frequency of the conduct violations. Any unexcused tardiness surpassing fifteen minutes shall constitute one unexcused absence. Additionally, failure to vote on any piece of Senate business by the Chair's final voting call at a meeting where a senator is marked as present shall constitute one unexcused absence.**

Be it further enacted, Article II, Section B, (2)(7), shall read:

1. The Internal Affairs Committee shall have the power to hear appeals to the removal from the Senate within 1 week of the removal. The Internal Affairs Chair and Speaker of the Senate shall sit as non-voting members of the appeals board and the Speaker Pro Tempore shall reside as the fifth voting member of the appeals board. Overriding removal from the Senate requires majority vote from the Internal Affairs Appeal Board. **The Senate Liaison shall sit as a sixth – but solely advisory and supervisory member – of the Internal Affairs Appeal Board.**

Be it further enacted, the conduct meeting members reserve the right to make any decision about the senator's continued membership in USG, including terminating their position.

Therefore, be it enacted by University of Iowa Undergraduate Student Government upon the signature of the President.

Alexis Carfrae, **Speaker of the Senate**
Alexis Carfrae

I hereby attest and certify that this resolution originated from the 2022-2023 Student Senate Session.

APPROVED on 2/14/23

Patrick Johnson, **USG President**
Patrick Johnson