A Resolution to Establish the Independent Commission on Senate Funding

Brett McFarland (for himself and Andrew Mikac) introduced the following resolution, which was referred to the Steering Committee where it passed with unanimous consent.

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Whereas the Undergraduate Student Government represents all undergraduate students at The Ohio State University, and

Whereas the Undergraduate Student Government Senate may establish commissions on important university issues, and

Whereas the USG Budgeting and Finance committee is empowered to make bylaws pertaining to the fiscal accountability of USG, and

Whereas these proposed changes are often contentious and should be studied carefully, and

Whereas an Independent Commission allows the Senate to get USG governance and CSA cooperation on areas dealing with funding organizations, and

Whereas the recommendations of the Commission will be delivered to the USG Senate for the full body to deliberate;

Therefore Let It Be Resolved that an Independent Commission on Senate Funding be established to examine the many issues surrounding the Undergraduate Student Government funding procedures, and

Therefore Let it be Further resolved that the Undergraduate Student Government approves the charter in Appendix I for the functionality of the commission to be abided by all members of the commission, and

Therefore Let it Further Be Resolved that the Commission shall submit revisions of policies to Senate for approval when it completes its work.

Floor Vote: Aye: UC Nay: _____ Present: _____

Micah Kamrass  
President

Andrew Mikac  
Speaker of the Senate
Appendix I

Independent Commission on Senate Funding

This charter shall be the ruling document for 43-R-44 as sanctioned by the Undergraduate Student Government.

I. Purpose
A. The Committee will examine the following issues:
   1. Senate funding guidelines for student organizations
   2. Senate funding restrictions and ceilings
   3. The By-Laws for the Budgeting and Finance Committee of the Undergraduate Student Government
   4. Interactions between the Undergraduate Student Government and Council of Student Affairs on imperative financial matters
B. The Committee will commence to revise the funding structure of the Undergraduate Student Government Senate

II. Structure
A. The Commission, and its members shall be subject to the Constitution and Bylaws of the Undergraduate Student Government during all meetings and functions.
B. The general body of the commission shall consist of seven (7) voting members and three (3) ex-officio members.
   1. Senators Brett McFarland and Michael Farinacci shall represent the Undergraduate Student Government Senate Budgeting and Finance committee.
   2. Senator Kelsey Shoub shall represent the Undergraduate Student Government Policy and Governance committee
   3. Vice President Brad Pyle shall represent the Executive.
   4. Chair of Council on Student Affairs Bryan Ashton and Assistant Director to the Union Jeff Pelliteir shall represent the Council of Student Affairs.
   5. Treasurer Paul Beery shall represent the Treasury of the Undergraduate Student Government
   6. Micah Kamrass, Andrew Mikac, and Sean Fitzpatrick shall be ex-officio members of the committee.
C. Of the seven (7) voting members, there shall be two (2) officers.
   1. The Commission Chair shall be Brett McFarland, the Budgeting and Finance Committee Chair of Undergraduate Student Government
   2. The Secretary shall be chosen by the Commission Chair.

III. Duties of Officers
A. Commission Chair
   1. The Commission Chair shall have the following responsibilities:
      a. Hold timely general body meetings of the commission.
      b. Report all findings and business of the commission to relevant parties.
c. Appoint the Secretary of the Commission

d. Ensure that all voting members of the commission are fulfilling their duties and remove members of the commission who are not fulfilling said duties.

e. Provide a weekly report on the activities of the Commission to the Senate.

2. The Commission Chair shall have the following rights:

a. Create necessary sub-committees within the Commission
b. Appoint Chairs for created sub-committees
c. Assist the Secretary in organizing reports and findings to be submitted to Senate
d. Delegate research and outreach to Commission members.

B. Secretary

1. The Secretary shall have the following responsibilities:

a. Record attendance and minutes at all general body meetings of the Commission.
b. Collect and compile reports from any of the members or interested parties to be submitted to the Chair.
c. Disseminate relevant materials including, but not limited to, agendas, minutes, and reports to all members of the Commission.

C. All official duties not specifically delegated in this charter shall be the responsibility of the Chair.

V. Reports

A. This Commission shall provide timely reports on all changes and updates to financial structures of the Undergraduate Student Government
B. This Commission shall provide a final summary by the last Senate meeting of Winter Quarter to be submitted to the Undergraduate Student Government Senate for approval.
C. The reports shall not provide the record of voting results of members.
D. Any proposed changes shall be simultaneously submitted to the committees on Budget and Finance and the Committee on Policy and Governance.

VI. Hearings

A. This Commission shall have the power to call individuals to hearings in order to have questions answered before the commission.
B. Hearings may be conducted for the general public, if the commission so chooses.
C. Transcripts of hearings shall be prepared and made available as soon as possible.

VII. Written Briefs

A. This Commission shall have the power to request and receive written briefs from individuals in order to have questions answered before the commission.
B. Written briefs shall be prepared and made available as soon as possible.

VIII. Attendance

A. Quorum for Commission meetings shall constitute greater than one-half the number of all currently serving members of the Commission.
B. Quorum shall be established by a Roll Call at the beginning of each meeting.
C. Unless otherwise stipulated, attendance at all general body meetings of the commission is compulsory.
D. In the event of an absence, each member of the Commission may appoint an alternate to fill his or her vacancy.
E. All members of the commission are subject to the attendance policies outlined by the Constitution and By-Laws of the Undergraduate Student Government.

IX. Expiration
A. This commission may be disbanded by a two-thirds vote of members of the Undergraduate Student Government Senate or a majority vote of the commission.