

Bill 003
A Bill to End Committee Meeting Fatigue
Sponsored by: Senator Hermes

Whereas,

Effective student government requires efficient use of senators' time and resources to maximize legislative productivity and student representation.

Whereas,

The current Senate bylaws require committees to meet every other week that the Senate is out of session, regardless of pending legislative business or committee agenda items.

Whereas,

Frequent mandatory meetings without substantive legislative matters often result in unproductive sessions that fail to advance student interests or generate meaningful policy discussions.

Whereas,

Senators volunteer their time to serve the student body and should not be required to attend meetings when there are no legislative matters to discuss or committee business to conduct.

Whereas,

Committee chairs possess the maturity and judgment necessary to determine when meetings are required based on pending legislation, emerging issues, and committee responsibilities.

Whereas,

Article III, Section 3, Clause 4 empowers Committee chairs to organize meetings of their committees. Clause 3 expands that authority by enabling Committee chairs to "run their committee meetings as they see fit."

Be it enacted that,

The Student Government Association Senate, acting in its official capacity as the representative of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby amends the following section of its bylaws to read:

- Article III, Section 2, Clause 5:

"Committees, with the exception of the Committee on Rules and Administration, shall meet at least once every three (3) weeks at the discretion of the Committee Chair."

Be it enacted that,

The Student Government Association Senate, acting in its official capacity as the representative of the undergraduate student body of The Catholic University of America, hereby reasserts the following Committee meeting provisions:

- Committee chairs shall reserve the right to schedule the meetings of their committee.

- Committees are presumed to convene weekly on Monday evenings unless the Chair provides advance notice of cancellation or rescheduling, or unless a full Senate assembly meeting is scheduled.

- Committee chairs shall reserve the right to cancel or reschedule meetings as necessary to serve the committee's legislative purpose.

Agreed to by a vote of _____ yeas to _____ nays on this date: _____ with _____ abstaining and _____ not present.

Michael Kish

President of the Student Government Association

Catherine Weatherwax

Vice President of the Student Government Association

