

Bill 001

A Bill to Require the Attendance and Votes of All Senators to be Reflected in the Senate Minutes

Sponsored by: Senator Michels

Co-Sponsored by: Senator Besendorfer, Senator Drauschak, Senator Gehrig, Senator Bommer

Whereas,

Article V, Section 3, Clause 3 of the Senate Bylaws details the procedures on voting.

Whereas,

The minutes are the record of Senate meetings which reflect the final tally of yeas, nays, and abstentions on every motion, but do not reflect which senators voted in the affirmative, which senators voted in the negative, which senators excused themselves from voting, and which senators were not present to vote.

Whereas,

The secretaries of the Senate already tally the yeas, nays, and abstentions of each senator when conducting roll call votes.

Whereas,

To ensure transparency between the Student Government Association and the campus community, it is important for students to know exactly how their representatives are choosing to use their power to vote on any given motion; the student body would benefit from having access to a voting record.

Whereas,

The secretaries of the Senate already keep a record of attendance and have traditionally published these attendance records in the Senate minutes on the basis of standing practice and not because of any explicit rule or bylaw.

Whereas,

Codifying the practice of publishing the attendance record would ensure that the student body has the right to know if their senators are representing them by attending the meetings; the student body would benefit from having access to an attendance record.

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 adds the following clause to the Senate Bylaws:

- Article II, Section 3, Clause 3: The attendance of senators and all other Senate officers shall be recorded each meeting and published in the Senate minutes of each meeting.

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 adds the following clause to the Senate Bylaws:

- Article V, Section 3, Clause 4: When a roll call vote occurs, the yeas, nays, and abstentions of senators, as well as the names of senators who are not present for the roll call vote, shall be recorded and published in the Senate minutes along with the final vote tally.

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

Tony Crnkovich
President of the Student Government Association

Maevis Fahey
Vice President of the Student Government Association

