



**Wayne State University  
Student Senate**

**By-Law Amendment**

**Huda Syed, *Parliamentarian***

**Fatima Yahya, Rachel John, & Rabika Ali, *Parliamentary Committee***

**Co-Sponsor: Dhruval Bhatt (Housing & Residential Life)**

**7 December 2023**

**RESOLUTION 2324-06**

*A resolution to amend the proposed section(s) of the Wayne State University Student Senate's Bylaws, as presented.*

**—BY-LAW AS WRITTEN—**

**ARTICLE VI**

**OPERATION OF THE STUDENT SENATE MEETINGS**

*Section 2*

**OPEN MEETINGS POLICY**

- A. Senate meetings shall be open to all members of the university community.
- B. The Senate may go into closed session subject to the terms of Michigan's Open Meetings Act, at which point no one other than Senate members, alternates, and/or the advisor may be present.
- C. All voting is guided by Michigan's Open Meetings Act.
- D. To the greatest extent possible, all Student Senate General Body Meetings shall be livestreamed for all students to view and participate in virtually.

*Section 8*

**VOTING**

- A. All Senate members are required to vote during meetings, abstention from a vote is not allowed and will be counted as a "yes" vote, except in the case of a financial interest.
- B. When one or more person(s) running for an open seat appears to be unfit for the position, Senators can call for a vote of no confidence in the candidate(s).

- C. A secret ballot may be called for by any member of Senate without the need to be voted upon in votes to elect E-Board members, to appoint Senators to fill vacancies, to appoint Senators to University committees, to remove Senators from office, to sanction Senators, and to reinstate Senators.
  - a. A secret ballot may be called for by any member of Senate to be used for all other matters put to a vote if the Senate agrees to do so based on a  $2/3$  majority vote of the Senate members present at a general body meeting.

— BY-LAW AS AMENDED —

ARTICLE VI

OPERATION OF THE STUDENT SENATE MEETINGS

*Section 2*

MEETINGS POLICY

- A. The Senate may go into closed session subject to the terms outlined below, at which point no one other than Senate members, alternates, and/or the advisor may be present.
  - a. Closed meetings
    - i. For elections, personal items, resolutions, or upon request
    - ii. 2/3 of voting members (in attendance) must agree on this.
    - iii. In the event of a vacancy election or other type of election, the option of a closed meeting must be announced. In this situation, the public must be excused from the room.
      - 1. A closed interview or discussion will automatically go into effect at the (minimum) of one (1) request by a candidate or Senator, regardless of the other candidates' or Senators' preferences for the duration of the discussion. Candidates have the right to choose if their interview is public or private.

*Section 8*

VOTING

- A. All Senate members are required to vote during meetings, abstention from a vote is allowed. Choosing to abstain, or abstaining from a vote, is a third category and does not count towards a "yes" or "no" count. The abstention category does not take away from quorum, except in the case of a financial interest.
- B. When one or more person(s) running for an open seat appears to be unfit for the position, Senators can call for a vote of no confidence in the candidate(s).
- C. All members (in attendance) must agree on a choice for all voting matters.
- D. A secret ballot may be called for by any member of Senate to be used for all other matters put to a vote if the Senate agrees to do so based on a 2/3 majority vote of the Senate members present at a general body meeting.
  - a. A hand count may be called for to clarify any uncertainty without the need to be voted upon.

*Section 11*

*Executive Board Meetings*

- A. E-board meetings are always closed to the public but they are open to elected general body members
- B. General body members cannot vote on action items.
- C. General body members that wish to discuss any topic with the executive board must email the Student Senate President in advance requesting that their topic be put on the agenda.

D. General body members' attendance of executive board meetings are primarily to share a valuable topic of interest or concern with the E-Board. Otherwise, general body members are not regular, active participants of E-Board discussions.

—— **RATIONALE** ——

ALL RATIONALE IS POSTED ON THE POWERPOINT PRESENTATION GIVEN ON 11.16.23.

**MOVED** to approve bylaw amendment as presented by: Senator **ROZMUS** AND **SECONDED** by: Senator **SHAMAM**.

<b>ACTION</b>	<u>    <b>X</b>    </u>	<b>VOICE MAJORITY</b>	<u>    <b>7 Dec. 2023</b>    </u>
	<b>PASSED FAILED</b>	<b>VOTE</b>	<b>DATE</b>

<b>FINAL ACTION TAKEN</b>	<u>    <b>X</b>    </u>	<u>    <b>18-1-0</b>    </u>	<u>    <b>7 Dec. 2023</b>    </u>
	<b>PASSED FAILED</b>	<b>VOTE</b>	<b>DATE</b>

**VOTE APPROVED BY:**



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**PRESIDENT: Hayden Johnson**



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**SECRETARY: Rabika Ali**