

LAW STUDENT GOVERNMENT
AT THE WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON SCHOOL OF LAW
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA
2515 Dole Street, Honolulu, HI 96822

Senate By-Laws

Adopted on October 27th, 2016

I. Senate Duties: Pursuant to Section 3.3 of the SBA Constitution, the Senate has the power and duty to:

- A. To create by-laws for each branch of the Law Student Government, pass resolutions, confirm all appointees, and impeach and censure Senate members;
- B. To override an executive veto by a two-third (2/3) majority vote;
- C. To report to the Judiciary passage of by-laws, resolutions, confirmations, impeachments, and censures within fourteen (14) calendar days of the action;
- D. To notate and keep minutes of all Senate meetings and make them available for inspection by any member of the SBA;
- E. To pass a fiscal budget for the LSG, at least one (1) semester in advance of the expenditure of funds; and
- F. To abstain from passing any ex post facto by-law.

II. Senator Duties

A. Senate Chair: The Senate Chair shall have the following duties:

1. Set the agenda for each meeting of the Senate;
2. Serve as the presiding officer of the Senate;
3. Meet with the Chairs of each standing Senate Committee;
4. Act as the liaison between the Executive Board and the Senate; and
5. Any and all duties listed in the SBA Constitution.

B. Senate Secretary: The Senate Secretary shall have the following duties:

1. Keep minutes of all Senate meetings;
2. Prepare the minutes for approval at the following Senate meeting; and
3. Transmit to the Judiciary all approved Senate minutes as soon as practicable after the minutes are approved by the Senate.

C. Senators: Each Senator shall have the following general duties:

1. Attend the mandatory training session provided by the Judiciary at the beginning of each Senate term to which he or she has been elected to serve;
2. Attend each meeting informed as to the subject matter to be discussed and have the ability to actively participate;
3. Report all student input, problems, and issues that arise to the Senate;
4. Have one (1) vote on all matters to be decided by the Senate;
5. Attend all Senate meetings, subject to the Senate Rules of Order;
6. Attend the regularly scheduled meetings for the committee to which he or she was elected or joined; and
7. Any and all duties listed in the SBA Constitution.

III. Senate Meetings

A. Meeting Dates:

1. The Senate shall hold at least [two] three ([2]3) meetings per semester, the first of which being the MANDATORY Senate training session provided by the Judiciary.
2. The Senate Chair shall publicly announce the dates of the remaining two (2) mandatory meetings for the semester [on or about the second week of the

semester] no more than 5 business days after the Senate training session.

3. The Senate Chair shall give written public notice of all Senate meetings, when anticipated in advance, at least forty-eight (48) hours before the meeting. The public written notice of the Senate meeting shall include an agenda.

B. Agenda

1. An agenda of any senate meeting shall accompany the public written notice of the meeting. The agenda shall include the date, time, and place of the meeting and a list of all the items to be considered at the meeting. Only items listed on the meeting's agenda may be voted on at the meeting. Voting on any agenda item shall occur after the Senate has provided opportunity for SBA members to submit testimony.
2. An agenda for any senate meeting shall include time designated for any SBA member, law school administrator, or law school faculty member to speak upon any topic, regardless of whether that topic is listed on the agenda for the meeting or not.

IV. Senate Confirmation of Executive Appointees

- A. Upon receiving notice of an appointment by the Executive Board, the Senate must hold a meeting to accept testimony and allow debate as to the qualifications of the appointee to serve in the respective position before holding a vote to confirm or disapprove of the appointee.
- B. The appointee shall be introduced to the Senate at the next regularly scheduled meeting following notice of the appointment.
- C. The appointee shall present a written resume of past experience and future goals 48 hours prior the confirmation meeting.
- D. The appointee shall address appropriate questions or concerns from the Senators.
- E. The appointee shall be confirmed by a majority vote of the Senate.

V. Overriding Executive Veto

- A. Upon notice of an executive veto, any senate vote to override the executive veto shall take place at the next regularly scheduled Senate meeting, or within thirty (30) calendar days of the Senate receiving notice of the veto if no Senate meeting has been scheduled; whichever occurs first.

VI. Bylaws and Rules of Order

- A. The bylaws may be amended by [a two-third (2/3) vote of the Senate] the passage of a bill for an amendment. Any proposed [amendments] amendment must be presented in the form of a bill and accompany the public notice and agenda for the Senate meeting at which the bill for an [amendments] amendment will be discussed. All SBA members shall have the opportunity to provide comments prior to the Senate vote on the proposed [amendments] amendment. Both written and in person comments will be accepted. Upon a two- third (2/3) vote of the Senate, the bylaws will be amended.
- B. The Rules of Order may be amended by a two-third (2/3) vote of the Senate. Any proposed amendment must be distributed to each member of the Senate at least 48 hours prior to the meeting at which the amendment will be considered. Upon a two-third (2/3) vote of the Senate, the Rules of Order will be amended.

/s/ Alejandro J. Balandran
Alejandro J. Balandran
SBA, Senate Chair