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**Committee:** Internal Affairs

**Draft:** Final

### **A bill to reform the Student Government Association's meeting attendance policy**

**Whereas**, Senate seats are allocated proportionally based on the size of each college in the University of Houston; and

**Whereas**, It is in the best interest of the Students of the colleges that make up the University of Houston to have their voices heard in the UH SGA Senate, and

**Whereas**, Title 1, Article 3, Section 3, Clauses 1 and 2 of the bylaws of the University of Houston Student Government Association state

*Clause 1: Any Senator who accumulates a combined total of three (3) or more unexcused absences from Senate meetings and Senate committee meetings shall promptly and automatically be removed from office on the grounds on nonfeasance.*

*Clause 2: Any Senator who accumulates two (2) consecutive unexcused Senate meeting absences shall promptly and automatically be removed from office on the grounds of nonfeasance; and*

**Whereas**, the bylaws of the University of Houston Student Government Association do not outline a provision for excused absences from meetings of the University of Houston Student Government Association; and

**Whereas**, the lack of such a provision allows for a loophole by which Senators may continually be absent from meetings by excusing themselves; and

**Whereas**, continued absence by Senators from meetings of the University of Houston Student Government Association do not allow for proper execution of their elected office and representation of the colleges they were elected to represent; and

**Whereas**, the bylaws of the University of Houston Student Government Association should include such a provision to allow for full and proper exercise of legislative power, and to open the door for emerging leaders and students to be appointed in place of Senators who are incapable or properly fulfilling their duties as Senators.

That Title 1, Article 3, Section 3 be amended to the following:

*Section 3: Absences*

*Clause 1: Any Senator who accumulates a combined total of three (3) or more unexcused absences from Senate meetings and Senate committee meetings shall promptly and automatically be removed from office on the grounds of nonfeasance.*

*Clause 2: Any Senator who accumulates two (2) consecutive unexcused Senate meeting absences shall promptly and automatically be removed from office on the grounds of nonfeasance.*

*Clause 3: Any Senator who accumulates four (4) or more consecutive excused Senate meeting absences shall promptly and automatically be removed from office on the grounds of nonfeasance.*

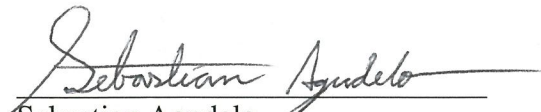
*Clause 4: Any Senator, who takes office on or before September 1st who accumulate six (6) total absences, excused or unexcused, shall promptly and automatically be removed from office on the grounds of nonfeasance.*

*Clause 5: Any Senator, who takes office after September 1st who accumulates three (3) or more total absences, excused or unexcused, shall promptly and automatically be removed from office on the grounds of nonfeasance.*

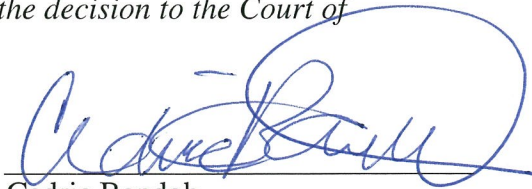
*Clause 6: The definition of excessive summer absences shall be no lesser than a combination of three (3) Summer Senate and summer committee meetings or two (2) Summer Senate meetings exclusively.*

*Clause 7: The Speaker of the Senate shall notify and remove Senators who violate the attendance policy.*

*Clause 8: In cases where a Senator is removed by the Speaker of the Senate due to attendance policy violations, the Senator may appeal the decision to the Court of Appeals.*



Sebastian Agudelo  
Speaker of the Senate  
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