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3 **The Student Association of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma**

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5 Author: *Visual and Performing Arts Senator Mason Alldredge*

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7 **Legislative Communication Act**

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9 An act relating to amending the bylaws of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma Student
10 Government Association to provide a legislative contact process.

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12 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF**
13 **SCIENCE AND ARTS OF OKLAHOMA:**

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15 SECTION 1: This act shall be known and maybe be cited as the Legislative Communication Act.

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17 SECTION 2: The Student Government Association of the University of Science and Arts of
18 Oklahoma is committed to transparency, not only for students, but for faculty, staff, and
19 all individuals and groups affected by resolutions and bills produced by the Student
20 Government Association. Because of this, the amendments below will bridge the gap
21 between faculty and senators and allow for meaningful change to take place at the
22 University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma.

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24 SECTION 3: The Student Government Association shall amend the bylaws to add a legislative
25 communication process for senators wishing to pass legislation.

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27 SECTION 4: These additions to the bylaws will create a process for communication between senators
28 and the departments affected by legislation. There are provisions in place for
29 unresponsive departments to ensure legislation is heard in a timely manner.

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31 SECTION 5: Additionally, these additions will add provisions to ensure that even if a department
32 disagrees with a piece of legislation, senators are still able to pass it and have it
33 recommended to the President.

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35 SECTION 6: Section XIII of the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma Student Government
36 Association Bylaws shall be modified to read as follows:

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38 **Section XIII. Legislation**

39 11. In addition to the requirements listed in the Constitution and Bylaws for
40 legislation, pieces of legislation must meet the following requirements to be placed on
41 the agenda:

- 42 • Senators shall reach out to the department(s) to be affected upon the potential
43 passage of the legislation, either by email or in-person. Senators shall ask for
44 the input of those in the department about the legislation.

- 45 • Upon successfully inquiring from the department(s), senators can move
46 forward with the original piece of legislation, modify it based on the opinions
47 of the department, withdraw the legislation from consideration, or make any
48 other determination they see fit.
- 49 • A senator has successfully inquired from a department when one or more
50 individuals from the department respond with their input.
- 51 • If a department fails to respond to a senator inquiry after 1 month, senators
52 may move forward with their legislation and have it placed on the agenda for
53 the next meeting date.
- 54 • Departments or anyone in them shall not determine whether a piece of
55 legislation can be placed on the agenda, nor shall the executive board and
56 advisors be influenced by departments.
- 57 • Any legislation shall be placed on the agenda for the next available meeting
58 date after successfully receiving feedback from the department(s) affected by
59 their legislation or after a period of 1 month of no response from the
60 department(s).
- 61 • Committees shall determine if these guidelines have been followed and give a
62 recommendation to the senate of do pass, no recommendation, or of no pass.
63 For a committee to have legislation voted upon, they must have at least three
64 (3) voting members present.
 - 65 ○ Do Pass: All specified guidelines have been followed.
 - 66 ○ No Recommendation: Unclear if guidelines have been followed or is a
67 controversial piece of legislation that may spark debate in session.
 - 68 ○ No Pass: Guidelines were not followed based on the standards
69 provided.
- 70 • Recommendations are not based on whether senators agree with a piece of
71 legislation, but rather if the legislation has followed all the guidelines.
- 72 • The executive board shall establish a department contact list with emails of the
73 individuals included. This list will be used to ensure senators know exactly
74 who to contact for legislation ideas.
- 75 • Bills shall be excluded from these contact rules, unless a department is affected
76 by the results of its passage.
- 77 • Lastly, neither the executive board nor its advisors shall bar a piece of
78 legislation from being added to the agenda if it meets the requirements listed
79 above and any other requirements otherwise listed in the constitution and
80 bylaws.

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82 SECTION 7: Copies of this act shall be distributed to the following:

83 All current members of the USAO Student Government Association (SGA)
84 Senate, all current members of the SGA Executive Council, all current members
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86 SECTION 8: Following passage, ratification shall take place in accordance with [Article IX of
87 the USAO SGA Constitution / Article XVI of the USAO SGA Bylaws]
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Harry Cracknell
SGA President

Luke Cantrell
SGA Vice President