South Carolina Student Legislature



“Our Freedom, Our Future, Our Responsibility.”

**Bylaws of the**

**South Carolina Student Legislature**

**Article I**

**Meetings**

**Section 1.** Notice of all meetings shall be given no less than two (2) weeks prior to the meeting.

**Section 2.** Spring Session

1. Each Delegation in attendance is entitled to one vote for the following purposes:
2. Amendments or revisions of the Bylaws;
3. Election of Fall Session Committee Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen in accordance with Article V of the Bylaws;
4. Any other business deemed by the Executive Committee to be pertinent to the South Carolina Student Legislature.

**Section 3.** Fall Session

1. No more than two (2) of these delegates shall serve in the Senate and the remainder shall compose the House Delegation. Each serving delegate shall be entitled to one vote.
2. Delegates must be present in order to cast a vote. A student from the delegate’s institution may step in to vote for a missing delegate provided that the student pays his registration fees prior to voting.
3. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General shall obtain from each member delegation a statement signed by the registrar of that institution listing the number of full-time undergraduate students.
4. The enrollment statement must be received before Fall Session ends on the final day in order for the delegation to receive its full quota of members.
5. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General shall calculate membership allowed for each delegation and inform the delegation chairmen of their findings regarding the populations and votes allotted to each school. Reapportionment of the chairmen shall occur at every Fall Session.
6. The Secretary of State and the Attorney General shall make the number of voting members as well as the total number of full-time undergraduate students available to all of the delegations have membership in the South Carolina Student Legislature.
7. Any delegation tardy in the provision of its enrollment statement or found falsifying its enrollment statement shall be punished by the suspension of member votes. The Executive Committee shall determine the specific number.
8. Legislation
9. Legislation shall be turned in no later than the date appointed by order of the Executive Committee;
10. Any legislation not found in the Bill Book must:
    1. Be approved the Executive Committee before the last day of session.
    2. Approved legislation will only take place upon completion of all legislation found in the bill book.
    3. All legislation presented to the Governor will be signed or vetoed and returned to the chamber in which it originated prior to the time scheduled for adjournment of the Senate and House. Each chamber may, by a two-thirds vote, extend its session and consider only those pieces of legislation vetoed and returned by the Governor.
    4. Any legislation passed by the Senate and House and vetoed by the Governor, subsequent to the adjournment of the regular session of the Senate and House, may be sent to the chamber in which it originated during an extended session held in accordance with Article VI, Section 6, G, 10 of this document.
    5. Any legislation passed by the Senate and the House and not signed or vetoed by the Governor after the final adjournment of the Senate and House, including any extended session, shall be considered approved by the Governor and ordered printed in the “Journal of Acts and Resolutions.”
11. Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives may not serve in the opposite chamber unless under extenuating circumstances as approved by the Executive Committee. However, the replacement may not vote or participate in debate on bills he has already debated and voted on. The replacement may also not run for any awards from the House once he has joined the Senate.

**Section 4.** Interim Meetings

1. Interim meetings shall be called by the Executive Committee between Sessions in order to carry on the business of the organization;
2. The executive committee shall call at least two (2) Interim Meetings a year;
3. On all items of business conducted at an Interim Meeting, each Delegation in attendance shall be allowed one vote.

**Article II**

**Supreme Court**

**Section I.** Election of members of Supreme Court:

1. The members of the Supreme Court shall be appointed by the Chief Justice. The Chief Justice shall receive resumes and choose the Associate Justices prior to the Spring Session. No more than two (2) justices shall be chosen from the same delegation.

**Article III**

**Committees**

**Section1.** The Executive Committee shall:

1. Consist of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House, President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate, and the Speaker *Pro Tempore* of the House, and shall be chaired by the Governor;
2. Approve all officers appointed by the Governor;
3. Call all meetings of the South Carolina Student Legislature;
4. Be responsible to plan all meetings of the South Carolina Student Legislature;
5. Review and approve an annual budget;
6. Appoint three (3) members-at-large- to the Constitutional Committee;

**Section 2.** The Finance Committee Shall:

1. Consist of the Treasurer, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of the House, and be chaired by the Treasurer;
2. Prepare the annual budget no later than the last Interim meeting before Fall Session;
3. Set and levy registration fees;
4. Solicit funds for South Carolina Student Legislature;
5. Approve all disbursements and reimbursements;
6. Review and revise the Treasurer Manual before Spring Session annually.

**Section 3.** The Trial Committee Shall:

1. Consist of the Chief Justice of the Court and all Delegation Chairmen of the member schools, and shall be chaired by the Chief Justice of the Court;
2. Hear all parties involved in an impeachment and shall convict or acquit the accused;
3. In the event that the Chief Justice of the court is unable to serve under this provision, the remaining committee members shall replace him with an Associate Justice to be confirmed by the Executive Committee.
4. In the event that a Delegation Chairman is unable to serve, the Vice-Chairmen from his delegation shall replace him.
5. Quorum for the Trial Committee will be three-fourths (¾) of the member schools.
6. The Chief Justice of the Court shall call all meetings of the Trial Committee and shall give notice as prescribed in Article VI, Section 1;
7. The accused and the Attorney General shall submit a list of witnesses to the Chief Justice of the Court, who shall summon them to the trial.

**Section 4.** The Constitutional Committee Shall:

1. Consist of the Chief Justice of the Court, the Attorney General, and three (3) members-at-large to be appointed by the Executive Committee, and shall be chaired by the Chief Justice of the Court;
2. Not allow any of the members-at-large to be from the same school as the Chief Justice of the Court or the Attorney General.
3. Review, prepare, and circulate any needed amendments or revisions to the Constitution.

**Section 5.** The Election and Awards Committee shall:

1. Consist of the Chairmen of the following committees:
2. Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources
3. Committee on Education
4. Committee on Judiciary
5. Committee on Labor Commerce and Industry
6. Committee on Medical, Municipal, Military, Transportation, and Public Administration
7. Committee on Miscellaneous
8. Committee on Ways and Means
9. And shall be chaired by the Chair of the Committee on Judiciary
10. No member of the Committee who is running for office shall continue to serve on the Committee. In this case the respective Vice Chair will take his plane on the Committee. In the case that the Vice Chair is also running for office, the replacement shall be appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Executive Committee.
11. Any member of the Committee who has been nominated for an award may not vote on the award(s) they have been nominated for. In this case, the Committee member will step away from the Committee to allow for discussion and voting.
12. Secretary of State shall assist the committee in making such preparations as it deems necessary, and shall be tasked with submitting all results to the Governor.
13. The Chair of the Committee on Judiciary and the Secretary of State shall count the ballots in all elections of the South Carolina Student Legislature.
14. Oversee the determination of the award honorees and recipients in accordance with Article XI.
15. The Chair of the Committee on Judiciary and the Secretary of State shall submit a teller’s report as discussed in Section 44 of *Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised*. This report shall sent to the Executive Committee and be available to any delegation upon request.

**Section 6.** The Conference Committee shall:

1. Consists of seven (7) members, three (3) Senators and four (4) Representatives, appointed by their respective presiding officers;

Resolve all differences between legislation passed by both chambers.

**Section 7.** The Fall Session Committees shall:

1. The Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of the seven (7) committees shall be elected at Spring Session in accordance with Article V of the Bylaws;
2. The Fall Session Committees shall consider all legislation and shall report on the legislation to the respective officers of the House and Senate;
3. The Chairmen and Vice Chairmen of each committee shall rank all legislation passed through their committee for review by the officers of the chambers.

**Article IV**

**Budget**

**Section 1.** The Executive Committee shall insure, through the operating budget presented, that the annual expenditure of the South Carolina Student Legislature does not exceed the annual South Carolina Student Legislature revenue. The budget shall include all annual expenditures that are greater than 25 dollars.

**Section 2.** The Treasurer shall make available for review an annual financial report upon request. The review shall be available by Fall Session.

**Section 3.** The presentation of the operational budget shall be at the first joint session of the first full eight-hour day of Fall Session. The new operating budget must be passed by the South Carolina Student Legislature General Assembly prior to the conclusion of Fall Session.

**Section 4.** In the event any one of (1) the operating budget, (2) actual revenues or (3) actual expenditures exceeds Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000) the Comptroller General Shall provide for and obtain an annual external audit of the finances of the South Carolina Student Legislature by a reputable certified public accountant for so long as the budget continues to exceed Fifteen Thousand Dollars ($15,000), or as long as the Executive Committee deems it necessary. The Auditor’s Report shall be emailed to all chairs within two (2) days of its receipt and be presented and explained by the Comptroller General to the South Carolina Student Legislature General Assembly as the first order of business at the first joint session of the first full day of the next Fall or Spring Session. The audit report shall also be made available on the South Carolina Student Legislature website.

**Article V**

**Nominations**

**Section 1.** Nominations shall be by the Secretary of State each day of Spring Session for Chairman and Vice Chairman of each committee listed in Article III. Names shall be listed by position in the order which nominations are received. Chairmen and Vice Chairmen shall be elected by secret ballot. Each Delegation shall be given one vote for each chair and vice chair position. Ballots shall be distributed, collected, counted, and certified by the Secretary of State, the Chief Justice, and the Attorney General on the last day of Spring Session. Results of these elections shall be announced to the delegates before the conclusion of Spring Session.

**Section 2.** The officers shall be elected by secret ballot, which shall be given to the chair of each Delegation to be completed in accordance with such rules as may have been adopted by the Delegation. The completed ballot shall be submitted to the Election and Awards Committee during the first joint session on the last day of the session as prescribed the Election and Awards Committee.

**Article VI**

**Discipline of Officers and Appointments**

**Section 1. Impeachment**

The impeached officer or appointee shall remain in office and he shall have until the next meeting of the members to prepare a defense. The Executive Committee will determine the time between the two meetings thus stated. The officer or appointee in question will have a minimum of 72 hours to prepare a defense.

1. Following impeachment charges, a hearing consisting of no less than three quarters (¾) of the members, shall be held to consider all charges made against the impeached officer or appointee.
2. At the hearing all charges and evidence shall be brought forth in front of the Trial Committee. The impeached officer or appointee shall be afforded a maximum time allotted to deliver a defense, and shall have final remarks before a vote is taken.
3. Upon a three quarters (¾) vote of the Trial Committee present, the impeached officer or appointee shall be removed from office.
4. Any vacancies by the discipline of the Trial Committee shall be filled according to the method laid out in the Constitution and Bylaws of the South Carolina Student Legislature.

**Article VII**

**Personal Liability**

**Section 1. Agents in Due Course**

An agent of SCSL, who having been given written authority by the Governor or the Executive Committee to contractually obligate the organization, shall sign all contracts in the name of South Carolina Student Legislature. South Carolina shall indemnify and hold harmless any agent acting on this authority.

**The Constitution of the**

**South Carolina Student Legislature**

**Article I**

**Name**

**Section 1.** This organization shall be called the South Carolina Student Legislature.

**Article II**

**Purpose**

**Section 1.** This organization shall be formed to provide a forum in which students may experience

the full range of legislative activity, to promote student input into public policy-making in

South Carolina, and to educate students about the functions of democratic government.

**Section** **2.** The motto of this organization shall be “Our Freedom, Our Future, Our Responsibility.”

**Article III**

**Membership**

**Section 1.** The membership of the South Carolina Student Legislature shall be composed of

delegates from South Carolina’s universities and colleges.

**Section 2.** Each delegation shall select its members from the student body of the institution that it

represents.

**Section 3.** For the purpose of this document, “students” shall be interpreted to all those with the

privileges of an undergraduate student at the member institution. No student shall serve as

a delegate for more than five (5) years.

**Section 4.** Delegations may reserve the right to dismiss a delegate during session solely on the basis

that the delegate has violated the delegation and/or school conduct rules, has been

arrested for a crime while at session, became ill or injured and must return home, or in

case of emergency.

**Section 5.** A delegation shall obtain membership at such time as it pays its registration fees, registers

with the Governor, and the state officers approve the registration.

**Section 6.** A new member delegation shall be defined as a school not having participated previously

or for a period of three (3) consecutive years.

**Section 7.** Upon approval of the registration and the receipt of the dues, the Governor shall issue to

delegation an official letter recognizing it as a member delegation.

**Section 8.** All memberships for the calendar year and shall expire upon the thirty-first (31st) day of

December.

**Article IV**

**Officers**

**Section 1.** The elected officers of the organization shall be the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor,

the Speaker of the House, the President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate, and the Speaker *Pro*

*Tempore* of the House. These officers shall be members of the Executive Committee. In

addition, the Comptroller General and Fundraising Chair shall be elected officers, but

shall not be members of the Executive Committee.

**Section 2.** In addition to the above officers, the Governor shall appoint, with the consent of the

Executive Committee, a Secretary of State, and Attorney General, a Treasurer, and a

Chief Justice of the Court. For the purpose of this document, “consent of the Executive

Committee” shall mean a majority of the members of the committee.

**Section 3.** The governor shall have full power, with the consent of the Executive Committee, to

create and fill any other officer that the Governor deems necessary to the South Carolina

Student Legislature.

**Section 4.** No person shall hold more than one office at a time.

**Section 5.** The officer terms shall coincide with the calendar year.

**Section 6.** Each candidate for office shall be a student in good standing with the institution he or she

attends.

**Section 7.** A candidate for the Governor shall have attended two previous sessions prior to the

session in which the election is being held. The Fall Session during which the elections

are being held shall not count towards the total of two previous sessions needed. At least

one of the previous session attended by the candidate shall have been a Fall Session.

**Section 8.** A candidate for Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House, or Comptroller General shall

have attended two previous sessions prior to the session in which elections are being held, and the session in which elections are being held shall not count towards the total of two previous sessions needed. Candidates for Lieutenant Governor shall be members of the Senate during in which the election is being held. Candidates for Speaker of the House shall be members of the House during the session in which election is being held.

**Section 9.** A candidate for President *Pro Tempore*, Speaker *Pro Tempore* or *Fundraising Chair* shall

have attended one previous session prior to the session in which the election is being

held. The Fall Session during which the elections are being held shall not count towards

the previous session needed.

**Section 10.** In the event that the office of President *Pro Tempore* or Speaker *Pro Tempore* shall

become vacant at any time other than that immediately preceding Fall Session, the

Governor, with the consent of the Executive Committee, shall appoint a qualified

replacement. Any appointment of a new President *Pro Tempore* or Speaker *Pro Tempore*

shall be confirmed by the respective chamber at the next Fall Session. In the event that

the office of President *Pro Tempore* or Speaker *Pro Tempore* shall become vacant at a

time immediately preceding Fall Session, the chamber concerned, as its first order of

business, shall hold nominations and elections to fill the vacancy. For the purpose of this

document, “immediately preceding” shall mean a period of two (2) months prior to the

first day of the upcoming event.

**Article V**

**Powers and Duties of Officers**

**Section 1.** The Governor Shall:

With the advice and consent of the Executive Committee, have the power to form a

cabinet to perform the duties of the Executive Branch designated to them by the Governor, to include the following positions and any other designated by the Governor as necessary to the operations of the South Carolina Student Legislature:

1. Secretary of State
2. Attorney General
3. Chief Justice
4. Treasurer

Have full power, with the consent of the Executive Committee, to create and fill and other

office which the Governor deems necessary to the South Carolina Student Legislature;

With the advice of the Executive Committee, have full power to establish and maintain an “Office of the Governor” for his assistance and to perform the duties designated by the Governor as necessary to the operations and execution of the powers of the Governor of the South Carolina Student Legislature.

1. The Governor shall have full power to appoint a Chief of Staff to manage and coordinate the operations of the Office of the Governor

Represent South Carolina Student Legislature throughout the State of South Carolina and

the United States;

Present the “Journal of Acts and Resolutions” to the governor and the General Assembly

of South Carolina;

Report to the South Carolina Student Legislature at the Fall Session on the state of the

organization;

Preside over all Interim Meetings;

Serve as a member of the Finance Committee;

Sign or veto all legislation that has passed the House and the Senate during Session.

**Section 2.** The Lieutenant Governor shall:

Assume the duties of the Governor in the event the Governor vacates the office of

Governor or is incapable of fulfilling the duties of the office;

Serve as member of the Executive Committee;

Preside over the Senate, but shall have no vote except in the event of a tie;

With the consent of the Senate, appoint three (3) members of that body, no two (2) of

whom shall be from the same school, to serve on the Conference Committee;

Serve as a member of the Finance Committee;

Be responsible for the publication of the “Journal of Acts and Resolutions;”

Be responsible for the compilation and publication of the Bill Book;

Be responsible, with the Speaker of the House; for the organization and distribution of a

legislation calendar for Fall Session

**Section 3.** The Speaker of the House shall:

Serve as a member of the Executive Committee;

Preside over the house as a member of the House;

With the consent of the House, appoint four (4) members of that body, no two (2) of

whom shall be from the same school, to serve on the Conference Committee;

Serve as a member of the Finance Committee;

Be responsible, with the Lieutenant Governor, for the organization and distribution of a

legislation calendar for Fall Session.

**Section 4.** The President *Pro Tempore* shall:

Assume the duties of the Lieutenant Governor in the event the Lieutenant Governor

vacates the office of Lieutenant Governor or is incapable of fulfilling duties of the office;

Serve as a member of the Executive Committee;

Preside over the Senate in the absence of the Lieutenant Governor.

**Section 5.** The Speaker *Pro Tempore* shall:

Assume the duties of the Speaker of the House in the event the Speaker of the House

vacates the office of Speaker of the House or is incapable of fulfilling the duties of the

office;

Serve as a member of the Executive Committee;

Preside over the House in the absence of the Speaker of the House.

**Section 6.** The Secretary of State shall:

Assist and advise the Governor in all matters in which the Governor shall need aid;

Prepare the minutes and records of interim meetings and Spring Session;

Be responsible, with the Attorney General, for the reapportionment of each Delegation

prior to Fall Session;

Assist the Election and Awards Committee in the execution of their duties as that

committee may deem appropriate;

Receive the certified results from the Election Chair of the Election and Awards

Committee.

**Section 7.** The Attorney General shall:

Serve as Prosecutor before the Trial Committee;

Be replaced as Prosecutor if impeached;

Serve as a member of the Constitutional Committee;

Be responsible, with the Secretary of State, for the reapportionment of each Delegation

prior to Fall Session;

Determine the constitutionality of legislation, under the Constitution of South Carolina,

whose constitutionality has been called into question on the floor. The legislation shall be

tabled for review by the Attorney General. Upon decision the Attorney General shall

recommend to the body a course of action based on his decision within one hour from

when he receives it. In the absence of the Attorney General, the Chief Justice of the

Supreme Court shall perform these duties.

**Section 8.** Chief Justice of the Court shall:

Rule on the constitutionality of legislation under the Constitution of the State of South

Carolina in the absence of the Attorney General.

Preside over the special session of the Supreme Court as outlined in Article VII.

Serve as Chairman of the Trial Committee;

Serve as Chairman of the Constitutional Committee;

Obtain and distribute the trial case to be used in the Supreme Court hearings at session no

later than 30 days prior to session.

**Section 9.** The Treasurer shall:

Keep a current account of all funds of the South Carolina Student Legislature;

Serve as Chairman of the Finance Committee;

Prepare and present the annual operation budget;

Abide by the Policies and Procedures set forth in the Treasurer's Manual;

**Section 10.** The Fall Session Committee Chairmen shall:

Chair their respective committees at Fall Session;

Serve on the Trial Committee;

Serve as members of the Election and Awards Committee.

**Section 11.** The Comptroller General shall:

Perform an annual internal audit of the organization and prepare an audit report to be

represented to the SCSL General Assembly in Joint Session.

Present the audit report to the General Assembly as the first order of business at the first

joint session of the first full day of the Fall Session.

Coordinate with external auditors through the course of any external audit of SCSL.

Documented approval from the Comptroller General shall be required for disbursements

of more than $150. A documented unanimous vote of the Finance Committee may

override disapproval from the Comptroller General. Email or written notation is sufficient

to constitute documentation.

**Article VI**

**Meetings**

**Section 1.** The Executive Committee shall call all meetings.

**Section 2.** The Executive Committee shall propose the order of business and business to be

conducted.

**Section 3.**  The meetings shall be:

Spring Session;

Fall Session;

Interim Meetings.

**Section 4.** Spring Session:

Spring Session shall be presided over by all presiding officers of the Executive

Committee;

Legislation shall be turned in no later than the date appointed by the order of the

Executive Committee;

Any legislation not found in the Bill Book must:

1. Be approved by the Executive Committee before the last day of session.
2. Approved legislation will only take place upon completion of all legislation found in the Bill Book.

The Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House shall, with the aid of the

President *Pro Tempore* and the Speaker *Pro Tempore*, form calendars of legislation for the

chambers;

A bill or resolution passing the joint session shall be presented to the Governor for

Approval;

All legislation signed by the Governor or passed over the Governor’s veto shall be

included in the “Journal of Acts and Resolutions;”

Member dues will be collected at the beginning of session at the discretion of the Finance

Committee.

**Section 5.** Fall Session:

Fall Session shall be an annual student legislature, modeled after the General Assembly

of South Carolina and shall be comprised of a Senate, a House of Representatives, and a

Supreme Court;

Elections for the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the House,

President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate, and Speaker *Pro Tempore* of the House shall be

held as the first order of business at the first joint session on the last day.

Each member school shall be represented by a delegation consisting of:

1. A Chairman, and;
2. Two (2) delegates per school, and;
3. One delegate for each 200 full time undergraduate students for the first 1,000 students (5 possible), and;
4. One delegate for each 1,000 full time undergraduate students from 1,000 to 10,000 (9 possible), and;
5. One delegate for each 3,000 full time undergraduate students from 10,000 up;
6. All number shall be rounded up if the numbers exceed by more than 50 percent (50 percent plus 1) the previous population bracket.

Legislation:

1. The Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House shall assign each bill or resolution to a committee;
2. Legislation which passess committee shall be assigned to its chamber by the Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House;
3. The Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House shall, with the aid of the President *Pro Tempore* and Speaker *Pro Tempore*, form calendars of legislation for their respective chambers;
4. Once a bill or resolution passes one chamber, it shall be transferred to the calendar of the opposite chamber;
5. A bill or resolution passing both chambers shall be presented to the Governor for approval;
6. All legislation signed by the Governor or passed over the Governor’s veto shall be included in the “Journal of Acts and Resolutions;”
7. All legislation passed in differing forms in the chambers shall be reviewed and revised by the Conference Committee.

Both chambers shall abide by their respective rules, which shall be amended or revised as

the first order of business when the chambers convene.

Only voting members of the Senate and House may be present on their respective floors

unless presenting legislation or appearing by the body.

Registration fees will be collected at the beginning of session at the discretion of the

Finance Committee.

**Article VII**

**The Supreme Court**

**Section 1.** Supreme Court

The Supreme Court shall consist of a Chief Justice and four Associate Justices, any three

of whom shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. The Chief Justice shall

preside, and in his absence, the senior Associate Justice. In all cases decided by the

Supreme Court, the concurrence of three of the Justices shall be necessary of the

judgment below.

**Section 2.**  Jurisdiction of Supreme Court.

1. The Supreme Court shall have power to review the trial case presented by the Chief Justice. The ruling of the Supreme Court will determine brief awards which are outlined in Article XII of the Constitution of South Carolina Student Legislature.
2. The Supreme Court shall constitute a court for the correction of errors at law under such regulations as the General Assembly may prescribe.
3. If legislation is passed and signed into law but its constitutionality under the Constitution of South Carolina is contested, the Chief Justice shall call a special session of the Supreme Court to review the law. The special session may be called no sooner than six (6) hours following the question of the law’s constitutionality with exception to the last day of session. Where it will be reviewed at the earliest possible time. The review process will allow the delegate who has questioned the constitutionality of legislation to present his argument before the Supreme Court and the legislation author to refute these arguments. The legislation author may receive help from his delegation for his defense. The Supreme Court shall publish a decision no later than one (1) hour following the hearing.

**Article VIII**

**Committees**

**Section 1.** The Fall Session Committees shall consist of:

1. The Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources;
2. The Committee on Education;
3. The Committee on Judiciary;
4. The Committee on Labor, Commerce, and Industry;
5. The Committee on Medical, Municipal, Military, Transportation, and Public Administration;
6. The Committee on Miscellaneous;
7. The Committee on Ways and Means.

**Article IX**

**Finances**

**Section 1.** The Executive Committee shall, each year, through the office of the Treasurer, provide

the South Carolina Student Legislature with an annual operating budget. The presentation

of the annual operating budget shall be done by the Treasurer to the General Assembly

during Fall Session.

**Article X**

**Elections**

**Section 1.** An officer shall be elected by a majority of the legal ballots cast.

**Section 2.** The Senate and the House of Representatives shall elect the Governor, and the Lieutenant

Governor.

**Section 3.** The Senate shall elected the President *Pro Tempore* of the Senate.

**Section 4.** The House of Representatives shall elect the Speaker of the House and the Speaker *Pro Tempore*

of the House.

**Section 5.** The Chair of the Election and Awards Committee shall preside over the elections. In the event that

the Chair of the Election and Awards Committee is running for office, he shall resign as Chair of the Election and Awards Committee, and the Governor shall appoint a replacement with the consent of the Executive Committee.

**Section 6.** The Elections shall be conducted as follows:

1. All candidates shall be listed on an official election ballot(s) as deemed official by the Election and Awards Committee.
2. All Ballots shall be handed out to the respective delegation chairs proceeding the last joint session of the Session.
3. One Ballot shall be given to each delegation chair for each member of that delegation, based on the number of votes assigned to that delegation in accordance with Article VI of this Constitution.
4. A delegate can only place his name on the ballot for a single office and cannot be listed more than once.
5. The candidates will be listed on the Ballot in the order than their nominations are received by the assembly.
6. Ballots which do not clearly identify the preference of the vote shall not be counted.

**Article XI**

**Discipline of Officers**

**Section 1.** Any elected or appointed officer may be removed from office for the following:

Failure to discharge the duties of his office;

Behavior determined by the body to be demeaning to the integrity of the South Carolina Student

Legislature.

**Section 2.** Specific charges against the officer must be presented at any meeting of the Trial Committee.

Upon a two-thirds (⅔) vote of the present committee members, the officer in question shall be impeached.

**Article XIII**

**Awards**

**Section 1.** The Carlisle Award is given annually at Fall Session in honor of the founder of the South Carolina

Student Legislature, Dr. Douglas Carlisle. The Carlisle Award is awarded to the delegate of

Officer who, in the opinion of the Awards Committee, best represents the ideals of the South

Carolina Student Legislature.

**Section 2.** The Best Senator Award is given annually at Fall Session to the Senator who shows himself to be

an accomplished speaker and conscientious statesman. The Senators shall nominate candidates for the Best Senator Awards and then each Senator shall cast one vote for one of the nominees. The Lieutenant Governor shall cast a vote in case of a tie. The Election and Awards Committee shall administer the ballots.

**Section 3.** The Best Representative Award is given annually at Fall Session to the Representative who shows

himself to be an accomplished speaker and conscientious statesman. The Representatives shall

nominate candidates for the Best Representative Award and then each Representative shall cast

one vote for the on of the nominees. The Speaker of the House shall cast a vote in case of a tie.

The Election and Awards Committee shall administer the ballots.

**Section 4.** The Best Legislation Award is given annually at Fall Session to the Author whose legislation, in

the opinion of Election and Awards Committee, best manifests thorough research, topicality, and

excellent use of language. The committee is not limited to bills presented to the House or Senate.

**Section 5.**  The Best Delegation Award is given annually at Fall Session to the small, medium and large

delegation that, in the opinion of the Elections and Awards Committee, best exemplified cohesion and activity.

1. A small delegation shall be defined as a delegation whose school has a current population of 2,000 students or less.
2. A medium delegation shall be defined as a delegation whose school has a current population between 2,001 and 8,000 students.
3. A large delegation shall be defined as a delegation whose school has a population over 8,001 students.

**Section 6.** The Chad M. Beatty Award is given annually at Fall Session to the outstanding non-officer senior

as decided by the Elections and Awards Committee.

**Section 7.** The Blake Alexander Campbell Memorial Award is given annually at Fall Session to a freshman

Representative or Senator who, in the opinion of the Election and Awards Committee and the Executive Council, shows himself to be a positive representative for the future of SCSL through statesmanship, honor, courage and integrity.

**Section 8.** The Best Written Brief award is given annually at Fall Session to the delegate(s) who, in the

opinion of the Justices of the Supreme Court, shows exceptional legal writing skills.

**Section 9.** The Best Oral Argument award is given annually at Fall Session to the delegate(s) who, in the

opinion of the Justices of the Supreme Court, shows excellent use of language skills,

communication skills, and the art of advocacy.

**Article XIII**

**Parliamentary Authority**

**Section 1.** The rules contained in the current edition of *Robert’s Rules of Order;* *Newly Revised* shall govern

the South Carolina Student Legislature in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they

are not inconsistent with this Constitution and any special rules this organization may adopt.

**Section 2.** The parliamentary authority prescribed in their respective rules shall govern the Senate and House.

**Article XIV**

**Equality**

**Section 1.** Any occurrence of pronouns throughout this document shall not be deemed gender specific.

**Section 2.** No delegate shall be discriminated against in any way on the basis of gender, race, religion, creed,

sexual orientation, gender identity, or age.

**Article XV**

**Amendment of the Constitution and Bylaws**

**Section 1.** Any member may present amendments to the constitution or bylaws at any join meeting at either

Fall or Spring Sessions.

**Section 2.** Approved Constitutional amendments must be ratified by two-thirds (⅔) of the members of the

South Carolina Student Legislature. Approved Bylaw amendments must be ratified by a majority

vote of the delegation chairs. Upon approval, the Secretary of State shall declare such

amendments to be in effect.

**Article XVI**

**Preemption of Constitution and Bylaws**

**Section 1.** Members of the South Carolina Student Legislature are bound by the Constitution and Bylaws.

The Constitution shall hold precedence over the Bylaws in all matters. The Bylaws shall not

preempt or supersede the Constitution.