

February 14th, 2019



Student Association Senate –

Concerns were brought to my attention regarding SB1819-023 Student Organization Sponsorship Interest Form and Proposal. I reached out to the Oversight and Appeals Commission to provide clarity on those concerns.

James Carpenter, the OAC Chairperson, provided this response:

Art. V, Sec. 5.05 (b)(xii) of the SA Constitution grants the responsibility for the President “to serve as the main representative and delegation leader to all external organizations, unless they temporarily appoint another SA member to serve in that role.”

SB1819-XXX grants the authority for the Student Organization Advocacy Senator (SOAS), without approval from the President to “[circulate]” the “Student Organization Sponsorship Interest Proposal” to “businesses and community organizations.”

Clearly “businesses and community organizations” fall under the category of “external organizations.” Nowhere in the legislation does it set forth that the President temporarily appointed the SOAS.

If the legislation were to be signed, it would fail to be enacted because the signature of the President is not enough to serve as temporary appointment or delegation of that responsibility. Moreover, if the President were to veto the legislation and the Senate override it, it would again fail to be enacted. Legislation cannot contradict the Constitution itself.

From my personal stand point, I was also uncomfortable signing the legislation without reviewing the alluded to contract in advance. Additionally, the legislation didn’t fall in line with the SLC Committee Bylaws. The purpose of the committee is to help facilitate interactions between student organizations at UW-Milwaukee. That means that the focus of the committee is all internal, requiring no interaction with “external organizations.”

Article 1, Section 1 of the Student Leaders Committee Bylaws state that the purpose of the committee is to “...identify and address issues related to student organizations at UWM and to advocate on behalf of those organizations to promote communication, broader perspectives, stronger leadership, unity, involvement, and collaboration within and between student organizations to promote a more active and lively student experience at UWM.”

For the reasons stated above, I have decided to veto this legislation.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Molinski

Student Association President