

Memorial Student Union, Room: 201 | 50 Lower College Road,

Kingston, Rhode Island 02881 Telephone: (401) 874-2261 Email: <u>info@rhodysenate.org</u>

University of Rhode Island Student Senate

November 12th, 2025 General Assembly Agenda

Recording Secretary:
Meeting Start Time:
A. CALL TO ORDER
B. ROLL CALL
C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
Senator/Chair moves to approve the agenda, seconded by Senator/Chair
D. READING AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
Senator/Chair moves to approve the minutes, seconded by Senator/Chair
E. PUBLIC FORUM

- Jay Wegimont, South Kingston Town Councilman
- Justin Watkins, President of Graduate Student Association

F. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- Student Organizations Committee
- Academic Affairs Committee
- External Affairs Committee
- Cultural Affairs Committee
- Campus Affairs Committee

G. REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH/CABINET

- Speaker of the Assembly
- Student Body President
- Student Body Vice President
- Director of the Treasury
- Director of Communications

H. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- Constitutional Review Committee
- Elections Committee
- Podcast Committee

I. REPORT OF THE COURT

J. ANNOUNCEMENTS

L. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

M. NEW BUSINESS

SS-24/25-26 – BILL CALLING FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF THE 2025-2026 STUDENT SENATE SPRING ELECTIONS

<u>Whereas</u>, the Student Senate Fall election results as presented by the Elections Committee for the election for representative seats for the 2025-2026 term.

Resolved, that the passage of this bill officially accepts the election of the following students

First-Year Representatives (1)

(Senator-Elect) Anureet Kuar

At-Large Representatives (1)

(Senator-Elect) Sebastian Rosa

Off-Campus Representatives (1)

(Senator-Elect) Emma Bigos

College of Nursing Representative (1)

(Senator-Elect) Chiamaka Desmond-Igbo

College of Education Representative (1)

(Senator-Elect) Alexis Danis

Resolved, that the passage of this bill shall open the internal election process for these remaining seats immediately.

College of Pharmacy Representative (1)

At-Large Representatives (1)

First-Year Representatives (4)

Sponsors: Speaker Rinne, Senators: Dickson, Niro, Dionne, Chair Milner

Bill Handler: Chairwoman Lynn-Sawyer

Date: Wednesday, November 19th, 2025

Expiration: Valid Until Reviewed

Action: Vote Tonight

<u>SS-25/26-27 – Resolution Condemning Improper Towing Practices at the Kingston Emporium</u>

<u>Whereas</u>, University of Rhode Island (URI) students are an integral part of the Kingston and South Kingstown communities and deserve fair, transparent, and lawful treatment from local businesses and contracted services; and

<u>Whereas</u>, multiple URI students have reported that vehicles parked at the Kingston Emporium have been towed without the presence of clear, properly displayed, and legally required signage indicating parking restrictions, towing policies, or enforcement procedures; and

<u>Whereas</u>, the absence of proper signage creates confusion, contributes to financial hardship for students, and raises concerns regarding the towing company's compliance with state and municipal regulations; and

<u>Whereas</u>, unfair or improperly administered towing practices undermine the values of fairness, integrity, and student support upheld by the University of Rhode Island and its Student Senate; and

<u>Whereas</u>, the Student Senate is committed to advocating for the rights, safety, and well-being of all students, and ensuring that businesses operating near campus adhere to transparent and lawful practices

RESOLVED, That the University of Rhode Island Student Senate formally condemns the towing of students' vehicles from the Kingston Emporium parking areas in the absence of clear and legally compliant signage and that the Student Senate affirms and stands by the core values of the University of Rhode Island, including fairness, accountability, and respect for the student community, and that this resolution shall be formally forwarded to:

- The Chief of Police, South Kingstown Police Department, and
- The Chief of Police, University of Rhode Island Police Department

Sponsors:	Senators: Bremer, Waddell, Torres, Niro, Ebrahimpour
Bill Handler:	Chair Singh
Date: Expiration: Action:	Wednesday, November 19th, 2025 Valid Until Reviewed Vote Tonight

SS-25/26-28 – BILL CALLING FOR THE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF "URI DEBATE UNION" AS A SENATE-RECOGNIZED ORGANIZATION

Whereas, the "URI Debate Union" mission statement is, "to foster an inclusive debating community on campus; promote open conversation where students can safely share their opinions on important topics, to enhance students critical thinking skills, problem solving skills, and public speaking skills", and

Whereas, URI Debate Union meets the requirements to be a senate-recognized student organization, and

Whereas, it is custom for the senate to do so, therefore be it

<u>Resolved</u>, that the University of Rhode Island Student Senate acknowledges URI Debate Union as a recognized organization.

ganizations	Committee
	ganizations

BILL HANDLER: Chairman Milner
DATE: Wednesday, November 19th 2025
RECOMMENDATION: (6-0-0)
EXPIRATION: Valid Until next re-recognition
ACTION: Vote Tonight

SS-25/26-29 BILL AMENDING THE STUDENT SENATE BYLAWS

<u>Whereas</u>, the University of Rhode Island Student Bylaws Section 9, Part 1 Student Organization Committee 9.9 reads as follows:

The Chairperson and committee members shall organize and attend monthly meetings of all recognized student organization presidents and or their designees in order to promote communication, community involvement, and training as deemed necessary.

<u>Whereas</u>, the current mandated monthly meetings are less efficient, less attended, and less consequential, oftentimes failing to garner any significant audience of student leaders,

<u>Whereas</u>, revising the requirement to one meeting per semester for organization leadership allows for greater attendance, more efficient training, and streamlined communication between the Student Organization Committee and recognized student organizations,

<u>Whereas</u>, the meeting is to be advertised at least three weeks in advance to give student leaders ample time to prepare and send representatives; with only the president of the senate recognized organization required to attend,

<u>Therefore</u>, updating the frequency in which meetings are to be held will allow for more accountability and engagement between the Student Organization Committee and recognized organizations,

Resolved, be it enacted by the University of Rhode Island Student Senate, that the Student Senate Bylaws, Article 9, Section 9, be amended to replace the current subsection with the following:

9.9 The Chairperson and committee members shall organize one meeting each semester of all recognized student organization presidents and/or their designees in order to promote communication, community involvement, and training as deemed necessary. Attendance shall be required for both the president and/or their designees of each organization. The meeting is mandatory; any organization which fails to send a representative will receive a penalty at the discretion of the committee and relevant professional staff.

SPONSOR: BILL HANDLER: DATE: RECOMMENDATION: ACTION: Student Organizations Committee Senator Curry, Chairman Milner Wednesday, November 19th, 2025 (6-0-0) Vote Next Week

K. SPECIAL ORDERS

- Nomination for Vacant Seats
- Internal Election for Vacant Seats
- Swearing in of newly elected senators

N. GENERAL DISCUSSION AND OPEN FORUM

O. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting End Time: