

HOWARD UNIVERSITY

Bill No: SMR001-16

Offered: June 22nd, 2016

RE: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) of 2016

A bill to Restore Transparency to the Howard University Student Association and to protect the right of the public to information

Section 1. Right to Public Information

Section 2. Exemptions from Disclosure

Section 3. Official Meetings

Section 4. Information on Student Activities Fee

Section 5. Enforcement

Section 6. Nullification

BE ENACTED BY THE 5th HOWARD STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE ASSEMBLY THAT:

Section 1. Right to Public Information: All students are entitled to full and complete information regarding the affairs of student government and the official acts of those who represent them as public officials; Any student has a right to inspect and acquire any public record of a student government entity, except as otherwise expressly provided by Section 2.

Section 2. Exemptions from Disclosure: The following matters may be exempt from disclosure under the provisions of this section

A. Student contact information and other information protected by the "Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (1974)"

B. Information deemed confidential by University administrators and/or the Board of Trustees

Section 3. Official Meetings Any student government entity conducting an official meeting should:

- A. Publicize the meeting no later than 5 business days before the commencement of such meeting, in such a manner that provides adequate notification for the student body
- B. Publish the official meeting agenda no later than 2 days before the commencement of such meeting
- C. Special meetings may be called by President or Chair of that government entity when they feel that situations and problems dictate the necessity; Meeting must be publicized no later than 5 hours before the meeting
- D. Record detailed meeting minutes that should be published no later than 5 business days following the meeting; and should include:
 - i. Record of meeting attendance, especially in the case of the attendance of voting members of a student government entity, such as the HUSA Senate and Policy Board
 - ii. Roll call or voting breakdowns on all official business of a student government entity, such as the HUSA Senate and Policy Board

Section 4. Information on Student Activities Fee: All information pertaining to the allocation of the student activities fee should be published for the public; this includes, but is not limited to information on salaries, budgets, fiscal reports, and meeting minutes where decisions concerning the student's activities are made

Section 5. Enforcement: This act shall take effect immediately. Any student government entity that does not comply with this "Freedom of Information Act" shall be prohibited from receiving funds from the student activities fee; any student government official that does not comply with this "Freedom of Information Act" shall be subject to impeachment, especially if that official takes action to hide or withhold information or alter information before disclosure

Section 6. Nullification: No other form of document may supersede the power outlined in this law, besides the HUSA Constitution



Anna Chambliss, Chairman

Howard University Student Association Senate



Allyson Carpenter, Executive President

Howard University Student Association

