

331<sup>st</sup> Student Assembly  
Senate Resolution 331-01

A Resolution

*To call for a review of Student Assembly's governing documents and to establish a Constitutional Reform Committee to draft proposed revisions*

**The Student Assembly Constitutional Reform Resolution**

An Act of the 331<sup>st</sup> Student Assembly of William & Mary,

Sponsored by Chair of the Senate Justin Bailey ('24), Senator Morgan J. Brittain (Graduate A&S),  
Senator Matt Swenson ('26)

Co-Sponsored by Senator Eugene Lee ('23)

Supported by President Sydney Thayer ('24), Vice President Taylor Fox ('24), Chief of Staff Marley Fishburn ('24), Attorney General Owen Williams (A&S '25), Director of Student Leadership Development Anne Arseneau, Associate Director of Student Leadership Development Jennifer Leung

WHEREAS, the current Constitution of the Student Assembly was ratified over 20 years ago, in January of 2003;

WHEREAS, the Student Assembly has evolved significantly in terms of scope, size, and operations since the passage of the current Constitution;

WHEREAS, it is healthy and beneficial for any student organization, including the Student Assembly, to regularly comprehensively re-evaluate and revise their governing documents;

WHEREAS, the Code and Constitution both contain many clauses which are inconsistent with the University's updated branding guidelines;

WHEREAS, there are many clauses in the Code and Constitution which are outdated and no longer reflect how the Student Assembly operates today;

WHEREAS, after many years of piecemeal edits there are many clauses in the Code and Constitution which are either redundant or contradictory;

WHEREAS, the Code and Constitution have become a factor that occasionally inhibits, rather than supports, the ability of Student Assembly members to serve their constituents effectively; and

WHEREAS, Article VII Section I Clause I of the SA Constitution states that “The Senate may amend the Constitution by three-fourths quorum” and therefore should be the body that formally initiates any comprehensive reform process;

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Student Assembly of William & Mary:

1. Formally acknowledges a need for reform to the Student Assembly Constitution and Code and calls for a revision process to be initiated.
2. Creates a **Constitutional Reform Committee** to coordinate the process of reviewing the Assembly’s current governing documents and proposing a revised Student Assembly Constitution and Code to the Senate for ratification.
  - a. The committee shall be comprised of:
    - i. The Student Assembly Attorney General, who shall Chair the committee
    - ii. A representative chosen internally from the SA Executive Leadership Team
    - iii. The Chair of the Senate
    - iv. The Historian of the Senate
    - v. Two additional representatives from the Student Assembly Senate, chosen by internal election
      1. The Senate shall encourage representation from each Senate committee, between the officers included above and these additional representatives
    - vi. The Chair of the Independent Elections Commission
    - vii. The Student Assembly Staff Advisors
3. Charges the committee with meeting no less than twice per month during the 331st session while classes are in session.
4. Charges the committee and its Chair with soliciting feedback and suggestions from members of the William & Mary community on proposed features and revisions to the SA Code and Constitution.
5. Charges the committee and its Chair with soliciting feedback and suggestions internally from members of the Student Assembly on proposed features and revisions to the SA Code and Constitution.
6. Charges the committee with presenting a revised Code and Constitution to the Senate for ratification before the conclusion of the 331st session, to take effect at the beginning of the 332nd session.
7. Charges the Attorney General to report to the Senate no less than once per quarter an update on the progress of the committee.