Senate Order SO 2425-24 **26 January 2025**

Thomas Musgrave, ***Student Union Parliamentarian***
Elijah Jones, *Judicial Council President*

AN ORDER TO AMEND THE SENATE BYLAWS TO ADAPT VOTING PROCEDURE TO CLOSE MEETINGS

Whereas, according to Section IV(9) of the Senate bylaws, members of the Senate have the right to close a meeting, which allows them to question and debate honestly and without outside pressure;

Whereas, this ability is hindered by openly voting to close meetings, as this outside pressure still exists;

Whereas, while transparency is an important value for a legislative body, sensitive issues may necessitate privacy in order for Senators to debate and vote in an honest manner; therefore, be it

Ordered by the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac,

That the Bylaws of the Student Senate are hereby amended to read as follows:

I. Section IV.9 is hereby amended to read as follows:
9. All meetings of the Senate shall be open to any member of the University community. The Senate may close a meeting at any time by a two-thirds vote. If a motion is made to close a meeting, the vote to do so shall be automatically closed and that motion shall be debatable before the vote occurs. The portion of the minutes and video pertaining to the closed meeting of the Senate shall not be published online or released to any individual not present at the time of the meeting.

It is so ordered.

Thomas Musgrave
Student Union Parliamentarian

Thomas Musgrave, Student Union Parliamentarian
SO2425-24, January 2025
39 Affirmative, 0 Negative, 0 Abstain