



## **THE THIRTY-THIRD CONGRESS OF GRADUATE STUDENTS**

Calendar: December 1, 2025

Location:

Time: 6:00 PM

[Submit Public Comment Here](#)

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Reading and Approval of the Minutes

Petitions into the Assembly

Special Introductions and Student Comments

Messages from Student Government

Report from the Office of Governmental Affairs

Report of Officers

- Report of the Speaker
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Finance
  - Financial Report as of 12/01/25
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Communications
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Judicial Affairs
- Report of the Deputy Speaker for Advocacy

Advisor Announcements

Committee Report

- Internal Affairs
- Student Advocacy
- Outreach

Funding Requests

- Bill #2: Speaker Pay

- Bill #3: LSC Funding Allocation Bill

Unfinished Business

New Business

Round Table

Closing Announcements

Adjournment

**COGS Financial Report, Fiscal Year 2025-2026 as of December 1st, 2025**

| <b>ACCOUNT</b>                   | <b>ALLOCATION<br/>AMOUNT</b> | <b>DESCRIPTION</b>  | <b>AVAILABLE</b> |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Reserves                         | \$92,787                     | For RSO funding requests at<br>COGS meetings                              | \$68,159         |
| PRESENTATION<br>GRANTS (Jul-Oct) | \$110,000                    | Presentation Grant balance<br>for the July-October funding<br>period      | \$8,435          |
| PRESENTATION<br>GRANTS (Nov-Feb) | \$110,000                    | Presentation Grant balance<br>for the November-February<br>funding period | \$85             |
| ATTENDANCE<br>GRANTS (Jul-Oct)   | \$20,000                     | Attendance Grant balance<br>for the July-October funding<br>period        | \$7,276          |
| ATTENDANCE<br>GRANTS (Nov-Feb)   | \$20,000                     | Attendance Grant balance<br>for the November-February<br>funding period   | \$13,800         |



**COGS Bill #: 2**

**Sponsor(s): Deputy Speaker Lanane**

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**AN ACT**

Amending the 2025-2026 Annual COGS Budget to adjust Speaker work hours and hourly rate to comply with Graduate Assistant work limits while maintaining total personnel cost.

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1 **WHEREAS**, the Congress of Graduate Students (COGS) annually adopts a budget establishing  
2 compensation for the Executive Committee; and

3 **WHEREAS**, the current COGS budget allocates compensation for the Speaker at **12 hours per week**  
4 **over 44 weeks at \$14.00 per hour**, totaling **\$7,392.00**; and

5 **WHEREAS**, under the collective bargaining agreement between FSU and the Graduate Assistants  
6 Union, Graduate Assistants may work **no more than 30 total compensated hours per week**  
7 across all university appointments; and

8 **WHEREAS**, any **Speaker holding a 20-hour graduate assistantship should remain eligible for the**  
9 **full budgeted annual compensation** while ensuring COGS remains in full compliance with  
10 graduate school policies; and

11 **WHEREAS**, amending the Speaker's hours to **10 hours per week over 44 weeks at \$16.80 per hour**  
12 brings the position into full compliance with the collective bargaining agreement while allowing the  
13 Speaker to retain the **same total annual compensation of \$7,392.00**;

14 ***Be it enacted by the 34<sup>th</sup> Congress of Graduate Students at Florida State University that:***

15 **Section 1. Adjustment of Speaker Pay.**

16 Proviso paragraph II(A)(1)(a) of Bill 2025 of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Congress is amended at "COGS Officers" to read:  
17 Speaker: \$16.80/hr ~~\$14.00/hr~~ over 44 weeks at a rate of 10 ~~12~~ hours per week (\$7,392 total);

18 **Section 2. Effective Date.**

19 The provisions of this bill shall take effect upon becoming law.

**DONE AND PASSED** by the 34<sup>th</sup> Congress of Graduate Students at Florida State University this DAY of MONTH, YEAR.

**FLOOR VOTE:** Deputy Speaker to Add Vote Count

**COMMITTEE REFERENCES AND DATES OF PASSAGE:**

- Referred to Internal Affairs 11.24.25. Reported favorably without amendment 11.24.25.

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Steven Medarev  
Speaker, 34<sup>th</sup> COGS

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tanner McKinley  
COGS Advisor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Amy Hecht  
Vice President for Student Affairs

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



# 34<sup>th</sup> Congress of Graduate Students Legislation Cover Sheet

**COGS Bill/Resolution #: 3**

**Sponsor(s):** Representative Rowan

**Short Title:** An Act Allocating LSC Funds for the Spring 2026 Semester.

## **Summary of Legislation:**

The bill allocates funds to thirty-seven student organizations at the College of Law and provides funds for the Law School Council expense account. The total allocation is \$52,798.07.

## **Background Information:**

Every year, in the annual budget, the Congress allocates funds to the Law School Council (LSC) for LSC to distribute to the student organizations at the College of Law. In fall 2023, the Law School Governance Reform Act was passed, which mandated that LSC allocate its annual funds in a semesterly budget.

As part of its budget process, LSC holds an initial informational session with student organizations walking through the budget process for the semester and answering any questions from the organizations. Organizations then have a period of time to submit budget requests to LSC. These requests are initially reviewed at a meeting of the LSC and Round One cuts are made. These cuts are made off of the submissions and are meant to bring down the volume of the initial request. Once the Round One cuts are provided to the organizations, each organization has a period of time to appeal the cuts and provide additional arguments for why that organization should receive more funding than initially proposed. LSC hears these arguments and incorporates them into a final allocation.

The final allocations are then transmitted to the COGS Speaker, who works with the representatives from the College of Law to draft a bill based off of the allocations made by LSC. Typically, a representative from the College of Law sponsors the budget bill.

The Congress, subject to veto by the university president or their designee, has final authority over the allocations made by LSC and may amend or reject the allocations as it sees fit.

## **Effect of Proposed Legislation:**

Passage of the bill allocates \$52,708.07 from the Law School Council to the Council and to College of Law Student Organizations.

**Attachment(s):**

- Attachment #1: Proposed Bill





**COGS Bill #: 3**

**Sponsor(s): Representative Rowan**

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## **AN ACT**

**Allocating LSC Funds for the Spring 2026 Semester**

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1 ***Be it enacted by the 34<sup>th</sup> Congress of Graduate Students at Florida State University that:***

2 **Section 1. Allocation of LSC Funds.**

3 The Congress hereby approves the following allocations from the Law School Council for the Spring  
4 2026 semester to the following organizations in the following categories:

| <b>LSC Spring 2026 Budget</b>                                    |                       |                |             |                                  |              |
|--|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Allocation: \$ 52,798.07</b>                                  |                       |                |             |                                  |              |
| <b>Organization</b>  | <b>Cont.<br/>Serv</b> | <b>Expense</b> | <b>Food</b> | <b>Clothing<br/>&amp; Awards</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|  |                       |                |             |                                  |              |
| <b>LSC Administration</b>  | <b>Cont.<br/>Serv</b> | <b>Expense</b> | <b>Food</b> | <b>Clothing<br/>&amp; Awards</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| LSC Expense  | \$0                   | \$0            | \$428.07    | \$0                              | \$428.07     |
| LSC Reserve  | \$0                   | \$0            | \$0         | \$0                              | \$0          |
| <u>LSC Administration</u><br><u>Total</u>                        | \$0                   | \$0            | \$428.07    | \$0                              | \$428.07     |
|  |                       |                |             |                                  |              |
| <b>LSC Student<br/>Organizations</b>                             | <b>Cont.<br/>Serv</b> | <b>Expense</b> | <b>Food</b> | <b>Clothing<br/>&amp; Awards</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| Asian Pacific<br>American Law<br>Student Association<br>(APALSA) | \$0                   | \$0            | \$850       | \$0                              | \$850        |



|  |         |       |         |       |         |
|--|---------|-------|---------|-------|---------|
| Association for Criminal Justice (ACJ)             | \$0     | \$0   | \$600   | \$250 | \$850   |
| Black Law Students Association (BLSA)              | \$0     | \$946 | \$604   | \$0   | \$1,550 |
| Business Law Society (BLS)                         | \$0     | \$50  | \$750   | \$0   | \$800   |
| Consumer Advocates Society (CAS)                   | \$0     | \$0   | \$250   | \$0   | \$250   |
| Christian Legal Society (CLS)                      | \$0     | \$400 | \$650   | \$0   | \$1,050 |
| Cuban American Bar Association (CABA)              | \$700   | \$60  | \$490   | \$0   | \$1,250 |
| Election Law Society                               | \$1,200 | \$0   | \$450   | \$0   | \$1,650 |
| Entertainment, Arts, and Sports Law Society (EASL) | \$1,800 | \$100 | \$700   | \$0   | \$2,600 |
| Environmental Law Society                          | \$0     | \$350 | \$450   | \$0   | \$800   |
| Federal Bar Association at FSU                     | \$0     | \$15  | \$435   | \$50  | \$500   |
| Federalist Society                                 | \$0     | \$0   | \$240   | \$110 | \$350   |
| Health Law Society (HLS)                           | \$0     | \$0   | \$350   | \$0   | \$350   |
| Hispanic Law Students Association (HLSA)           | \$125   | \$100 | \$1,175 | \$0   | \$1,400 |
| Human Trafficking and Policy Law Society (HTPLS)   | \$250   | \$0   | \$115   | \$35  | \$400   |
| Italian American Law Student Association (IALSA)   | \$0     | \$0   | \$800   | \$0   | \$800   |
| Intellectual Property Law Society                  | \$0     | \$50  | \$250   | \$550 | \$850   |
| International Law Students Association (ILSA)      | \$0     | \$250 | \$600   | \$0   | \$850   |
| Jewish Law Students Association (JLSA)             | \$0     | \$0   | \$500   | \$0   | \$500   |
| Judge Advocate Student Association (JASA)          | \$0     | \$0   | \$400   | \$0   | \$400   |
| Law Students Practicing Wellness (LSPW)            | \$0     | \$500 | \$500   | \$0   | \$1,000 |

|  |                   |                |             |                              |              |
|--|-------------------|----------------|-------------|------------------------------|--------------|
| Middle Eastern Law Association (MELA)                      | \$0               | \$240          | \$1,010     | \$150                        | \$1,400      |
| National Lawyers Guild (NLG)                               | \$0               | \$250          | \$720       | \$0                          | \$970        |
| OUTLaw   | \$0               | \$100          | \$250       | \$0                          | \$350        |
| Public Interest Law Students Association (PILSA)           | \$0               | \$0            | \$1,350     | \$0                          | \$1,350      |
| Real Property, Probate, & Trust Law Society at FSU (RPPTL) | \$0               | \$0            | \$253       | \$547                        | \$800        |
| Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)                  | \$440             | \$200          | \$510       | \$0                          | \$1,150      |
| Student Bar Association (SBA)                              | \$19,000          | \$1,500        | \$0         | \$0                          | \$20,500     |
| Student Veterans Law Symposium                             | \$0               | \$0            | \$450       | \$0                          | \$450        |
| Transfer Student Organization (TSO)                        | \$0               | \$0            | \$350       | \$0                          | \$350        |
| Women's Law Symposium (WLS)                                | \$250             | \$860          | \$990       | \$0                          | \$2,100      |
| <u>LSC Student Organizations Total</u>                     | \$23,765          | \$5,971        | \$17,042    | \$1,692                      | \$48,470     |
|  |                   |                |             |                              |              |
| <b>Law Journals</b>  | <b>Cont. Serv</b> | <b>Expense</b> | <b>Food</b> | <b>Clothing &amp; Awards</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| Business Review  | \$0               | \$0            | \$450       | \$0                          | \$450        |
| Journal of Land Use & Environmental Law                    | \$0               | \$0            | \$350       | \$0                          | \$350        |
| Journal of Transnational Law & Policy                      | \$0               | \$0            | \$0         | \$0                          | \$0          |
| Law Review   | \$0               | \$180          | \$1,770     | \$0                          | \$1,950      |
| <u>Law Journals Total</u>                                  | \$0               | \$180          | \$2,570     | \$0                          | \$2,750      |
|  |                   |                |             |                              |              |
| <b>Competition Teams</b>                                   | <b>Cont. Serv</b> | <b>Expense</b> | <b>Food</b> | <b>Clothing &amp; Awards</b> | <b>Total</b> |
| Moot Court   | \$0               | \$0            | \$1,150     | \$0                          | \$1,150      |
| Trial Team   | \$0               | \$0            | \$0         | \$0                          | \$0          |

|                          |          |          |             |         |              |
|--------------------------|----------|----------|-------------|---------|--------------|
| <u>Competition Teams</u> |          |          |             |         |              |
| <u>Total</u>             | \$0      | \$0      | \$1,150     | \$0     | \$1,150      |
|                          |          |          |             |         |              |
| <b>Total</b>             | \$23,765 | \$ 6,151 | \$21,190.07 | \$1,692 | \$ 52,798.07 |

5 **Section 2. Authorization for Off-Campus Events.**

6 The organizations funded in this act are authorized to hold all off-campus events budgeted by the  
7 Law School Council.

8 **Section 3. Effective Date.**

9 The provisions of this bill shall take effect upon becoming law.

**DONE AND PASSED** by the 34<sup>th</sup> Congress of Graduate Students at Florida State University this DAY of MONTH, YEAR.

**FLOOR VOTE:** Deputy Speaker to Add Vote Count

**COMMITTEE REFERENCES AND DATES OF PASSAGE:**

- Deputy Speaker to Add Committee References and Dates of Passage

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Steven Medarev  
Speaker, 34<sup>th</sup> COGS

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Serrone  
Deputy Speaker for Finance

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. Amy Hecht  
Vice President for Student Affairs

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Tanner McKinley  
COGS Advisor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_