**Misuse Of SAC Funds Cited**

**BY R. VANCE BUTTS**
Gamecock Staff Writer

A bill to prohibit the direct or indirect expenditure of Student Allocates Commission (SAC) funds was introduced at the Student Senate September 12 by Sen. Robert Clarkson of the law district.

The bill stems from another bill: Clarkson introduced last spring reducing the University fees each student pays per semester. The bill was defeated, and the bill introduced last Wednesday was tabled, killing it, as a two-thirds majority is needed to re-introduce the bill onto the Senate floor.

Clarkson cited waste and unintentional misuse of funds by the student government. In a letter to The Gamecock on August 29, Clarkson stated: “Many of the projects of both the administration and student government are money-wasting expeditions."

“The student bureaucrats have compassion for the children in Hong Kong, Nicaragua and Inda, and lavish great sums from the activity fee to support their love and sorrow.”

Armed with excerpts from Dean Alexander’s files, Clarkson cited several examples of the “misuse” by various organizations such as the Volunteer Action Council, which provides the neighborhood children around the University with milk and cookies.

He also produced a budget sheet showing that on January 22, the council had a bill from the Armer’s Wine Cellar for $20.91.

Clarkson sees nothing wrong with these organizations having parties, but doesn’t believe student money should be spent for them.

Other organizations showing misuse of funds on other sheets were the India Students, the Student Bar Association and the Association of Women Students, the last of which said were spending SAC funds for posters, buttons, brochures and mail-outs to influence the Passage of the ERA bill by the state legislature.

Clarkson said, “According to the records stored in the office of the Dean of Student Affairs (SAC) (Alexander) several groups will combine to support a speaker, resulting in some outlandish and unreported fees.”

Clarkson also said “Elimination of the illegal and senseless expenditures could result in reduction in University fees. Alternate sources of revenue could support vital functions of the students. The SGA receives no monies from the vending machines on campus. The administration even refuses to release the royalties or placement fees from the vending machines. Another source of revenue could be the University-owned bookstore which operates at an efficiency that would shame a Russian wheat farm. According to Harold Brunton, vice president for business affairs, the University has in excess of several hundred thousand dollars in non-appropriated funds.

Finally, the monies collected from the mandatory fees belong to the students. If it cannot be used properly, it should be returned.”

Unofficial reaction to Clarkson’s bill ranged from highly critical opinions of the senator, to a more moderate feeling. One official thinks Clarkson is well-intentioned, but lacks the refinement needed to produce good legislation.

Alan Rosenbuhl, a member of the SAC, had few thoughts on the issue. As he understands Clarkson’s Bill, there is a need for legislation to regulate spending, and he said Saturday, “Indirect funding of charity should be allowed in some instances, as it follows guidelines set by the parent organization (SGA) and followed by the SAC. I don’t feel that there should be any double standard.”

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