09/04/23: UPDATE

: Snapshot proposal on this topic is live now until this Wednesday! Please vote here: [Snapshot](#)

04/27/23: UPDATE

: This proposal has received a $5K grant from Aave Grants DAO and we've started implementing dedicated features for Aave Governance.

04/07/23: UPDATE

: After receiving feedback from [@MarcZeller](#) and carefully considering it ourselves, we have updated our grant request from a retroactive grant to a $5k grant.

Hi, everyone. I'm Kohei from Senate Labs.

We are building [Senate](#), a tool to facilitate DAO governance, and we currently support 75 Aave voters, which is the largest number on our app. Over the past few months, we've been considering expanding our scope for Aave governance. Therefore, we would like to receive feedback from the community before applying to Aave Grants DAO.

References

1. [Senate website](#)
2. [Senate Github](#)
3. [Senate Twitter](#)

Summary

This grant proposal aims to implement a set of dedicated features for Aave governance, providing the Aave community with a tool to easily stay aware of the governance that increases the voting participation rate, and the number of new voters and prevents proposals from not reaching quorum.

Deliveries

Senate is a new set of governance facilitation features that reduce the friction of participating in governance. We currently support 30+ DAOs by providing a proposal dashboard and a daily bulletin email to help their voters easily stay aware of what's happening in governance.

However, each DAO's governance is unique. To continue contributing to Aave governance, we concluded that we should implement features that are tailored to Aave.

The following work packages outline the project scope in sequence:

1) Aave governance notification

We will build a governance notification that is dedicated to Aave. This will allow delegates and voters to easily stay informed about active proposals (offchain & onchain), including the due time and voting status of each proposal.

2) Subscription button on the forum

To allow the Aave community to sign up and receive the notification directly from the Aave page, we will build a widget that enables community members to subscribe to the Aave governance notification from the forum.

3) Quorum threshold notification

To prevent proposals from not reaching quorum, we will add support for Aave proposal quorum and create Aave quorum notifications to be sent to voters who haven't voted in a proposal that is about to end without the quorum.

4) Real-time notifications

Aave has one of the most active governance, and emergency proposals sometimes require immediate voting by the community. Currently, we send a governance notification once a day, but we have realized that we need to enable real-time notifications to support Aave's governance needs better. Therefore, we will implement this feature as well.

Why integrate Senate with Aave?

Decentralized governance is crucial for DAOs/Protocols to be robust and secure, but it can be a significant challenge to stay actively engaged in governance, especially for high-activity governance like Aave. With proposals emerging on different platforms (offchain & onchain) without a schedule, it's easy for voters to miss out on crucial decisions that can lead to low participation rates or missed quorums.

11 proposals failed to reach quorum in the past year alone (a [recent proposal discussing this problem](#)) and this situation can be a significant stumbling block to Aave governance and growth.

By implementing a set of dedicated features on Senate, Aave can provide the community with a tool to stay aware of the governance with ease. This can help increase the voting participation rate and the number of new voters, as well as prevent proposals from not reaching quorum.

Grant Size

After receiving feedback from [@MarcZeller](#) and ACI, and carefully considering it on our end, we have updated our proposal. Instead of requesting a retroactive grant, we would like to request a $5k grant from AGD to implement the listed features and conduct a test run for 3 months.

KPI we expect to achieve

Senate aims to improve the following key metrics

- Voter participation marginal increase

- Number of net new voters increase

- Number of proposals that didn't reach quorum decreased

Previous Work

Senate is a new set of governance facilitation features to make DAO governance easier.

We reduce the friction in participating in governance by aggregating all active proposals (offchain & onchain) along with due time and voting status for each proposal in one place, a daily bulletin to keep aware of everything with ease, and tracking other voting wallets feature.

Usage metrics:

- Currently, 75 voters are following Aave governance through Senate

Implementation:

- Added support for [offchain and onchain proposals of Aave governance](#)

- Added a sanity check to ensure that we are not missing any offchain or onchain proposals from Aave

Others:

- Won [the finalist & 2nd place of Infrastructure at ETHCC Hack 2022](#)

- Won [the best accessibility tool from AAVE Grants DAO & the best community tool from Optimism at ETHOnline 2022](#)

Next steps

1. Discuss concerns or questions regarding the integration of Senate

2. If there is enough community consensus, we will apply to AGD

3. Once it's approved, we will start implementing

4. After 3 months from the integration date, we will share the results of the changes to the KPIs

5. If the trial succeeds and shows positive changes to the KPIs, we plan to propose a mid or long-term service to Aave DAO