

UNIVERSITY of
HOUSTON

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Label: SGAB-57024

Date introduced:

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Sponsor(s): Attorney General Bonnete, Chief Justice Munoz III

Committee: Internal Affairs

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Election Code Updates

Whereas, the current Election Code does not reflect the process within the Election Commission;

Whereas, certain changes may be made within the Election Code to ensure an effectual election season.

Therefore, be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association of the University of Houston:

Be it further enacted, that Article 3 (1) (7) of the Election Code be amended to read: “The SGA Election Advisor is responsible for verifying each candidate meets baseline requirements set forth in this document.”

Be it further enacted, that Article 3 (6) (9) be amended to read: “Members of the Election Commission or Justice Department may not disclose the names of any candidate, party, or affiliated individuals, without their consent, before the filing deadline.”;

Be it further enacted, that Article 3 (6) (9) (a) be added;

Be it further enacted, that Article 3 (6) (9) (a) read: “The Election Commission or Justice Department may disclose the names and contact information for independent candidates to all registered Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates based on the premise that they have gotten written consent from the candidate and that the Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates intend to recruit the independent candidate into their party.”;

Be it further enacted, that Article 3 (6) (15) be added;

Be it further enacted, that Article 3 (6) (15) read: “Candidates may switch their position registration so long as they confirm this in writing to the Chief Election Commissioner and the change occurs before the registration deadline.”;

Be it further enacted, that Article 4 (2) (4) of the Election Code be struck, renumbering subsequent clauses appropriately;

Be it further enacted, that Article 2 (2) (9) (a) be amended to read: “This does not include student organization social media for the purposes of a single instance social media platform of endorsement. Student organizations may not tag any party more than once in their social media posts. Any campaign activities on Student Organization social media outside of a single endorsement post per-platform is prohibited (for instance, if an organization has a Facebook and an Instagram, they may post the same endorsement post on both platforms, but no more)”;

Be it further enacted, that Article 2 (2) (9) (b) be amended to read: “No university-sponsored (department, division, office, etc.) social media will be used for the purposes of campaigning. This includes tagging parties involved in the election in social media posts.”;

Be it further enacted, that Article 4 (2) (13) be amended to read: “Campaigners cannot offer anything of monetary value to a voter on the condition the voter casts a vote for said campaigner or said campaigner’s team. Anything given to voters by candidates must be unconditional in nature.”;

Be it further enacted, that Article 4 (3)(5) be amended to read: “If a student group chooses to endorse a candidate, the candidate will be held responsible for all activities of the endorsing student group in regard to activities which are intended to physically, mentally, or emotionally inhibit a candidate or their party.”;

Be it further enacted, that Article 4 (4)(5) be amended to read: “No candidate or campaign staff member may offer anything of monetary value nor threaten or promise any particular action to a member of the Election Commission, or a member of the Justice Department with the intention of incentivizing or causing undue influence in the election process. The Election Commission and Attorney General reserves the right to file a complaint against any individual who violates this clause.”;

Be it further enacted, that Article 5 (4) (6) read: “The Election Commission will post the final ballot for any election at least two (2) business days prior to the voting period and will post a copy to the Student Government Association website as well.”;

Be it further enacted, that Article 6 (1) (4) be added;

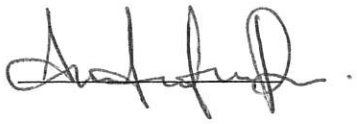
Be it further enacted, that Article 6 (1) (4) read: “Independent candidates and political parties are limited to expenditures totaling no more than fifty (\$50) dollars for giveaways.”

Be it further enacted, that Article 7 (2) (4) (a) be added;

Be it further enacted, that Article 7 (2) (4) (a) read: “The Attorney General has 48 hours to respond to Class B and C violations.”;

Be it further enacted, that Article 7 (2) (6) be added renumbering subsequent Clauses;

Be it further enacted, that Article 7 (2) (6) read: “The Election Trial Board will follow the same procedures as the Supreme Court when conducting a hearing.”



Arsalan Darbin

Student Government President

Date of President's Approval: 6-28-21

APPROVED



David Paul Hilton

Speaker of the Senate

Date of Senate Approval: 5/26/2021

