

March 27, 2012

FROM: Donald Garrett [REDACTED]  
TO: The Elections and Disputes Commission  
RE: Bill 32 Grievance

Good Morning!

There is no standard form for submitting grievances pursuant to 4CSG § 2.203. Please accept the attached grievance for consideration in the Disputes Board. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. I respectfully request a hearing on the grievance.

DIG

Enclosures

**Grievance Questioning the Constitutionality of Bill 32 (32<sup>nd</sup> Student Senate)**

Pursuant to 4CSG § 2.203, I request a hearing on the constitutionality of Bill 32. Bill 32 is in violation of Article VIII, Section 2 of the Student Body Constitution of George Mason University. The grievance is against the Student Senate, who is in charge of enforcing provisions of the Student Body Constitution

**Background**

Bill 32 passed the 32<sup>nd</sup> Student Senate on Thursday, March 1, 2012 by the requisite vote. It is a bill that adds several constitutional amendments for a referendum on the Spring 2012 Election ballot.

**Article VIII, Section 2 Violations**

Article VIII, Section 2 of the Student Body Constitution states, in part, “The Senate will publicize, through appropriate media sources, at least two consecutive weeks before an open hearing, or debate, for the proposed amendment(s). The Senate shall have the power to establish procedures for the open hearing, or debate, and allow adequate time for any student to speak on the bill”

**1. Publicizing**

A week contains 7 days. The Student Senate voted on Bill 32 on March 1, 2012. 14 days prior would land on February 16. There was no publicity through appropriate media sources on Bill 32 beginning on February 16, 2012.

There is not a single tweet between February 16, 2012 and March 1, 2012 about Bill 32. There were no advertisements/articles in Connect2Mason or the Broadside between 2/16/12 and 3/1/12 on Bill 32. There was not a single facebook update between 2/16/12 and 3/1/12 about Bill 32. There was not a single website update about Bill 32 on the Student Government website between 2/16/12 and 3/1/12.

**2. Opening Hearing/Debate**

There was not an opening hearing or debate on Bill 32 that allowed “adequate time for any student to speak on the bill.” On March 1, 2012 there was a general public comment time but there was not a specific hearing or debate time for students to specifically address Bill 32.

For the above reasons, I ask the Elections and Disputes Commission to take the items contained in Bill 32 off the Spring 2012 ballot.

Yours truly,

Donald Garrett