

**A Bill to Amend the Code of Student Governance
B. #39**

39th STUDENT SENATE
2nd Session
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A Bill to Amend the Code of Student Governance

**IN THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT
OF GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**

February 14th, 2019

Sponsored by: Speaker Pro-Tempore Price
Co-Sponsored by: Chairwoman Bates

Bill #39

Be it enacted by the Student Senate of George Mason University –

- A. That Title VI, Chapter 2: be amended to read the following in the Code of Student Governance:

Chapter 2: ~~Election and Disputes Commission~~ General Provisions Regarding Elections

§ 201 Establishment of the Commission

~~The Election and Dispute Commission shall be an independent body, which shall administer all elections of the Student Government.~~

§ 202 Oath of Office

~~Commissioners shall be bound by an oath of office, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Student Body Constitution.~~

§ 203 General Restrictions

- ~~(1) No Commissioner shall simultaneously hold any other office in the Student Government;
(2) No Commissioner shall assist any candidate for office or participate in any political campaign having a vested interest in the outcome of any election administered by the Commission;
(3) No Commissioner, who shall resign his office, shall be eligible to run for an elected office within the Student Government for the next academic year.~~

§ 204 Attendance

~~Every Commissioner is responsible for attending general pre-scheduled Election and Disputes Commission meetings that are scheduled together by the Commission as a group. After 2 unexcused absences, a commissioner will receive a warning from the Commission. After 3~~

unexcused absences, a commissioner will be immediately removed from office. Meetings scheduled 72 hours or less in advance, such as grievance meetings, will not count in the attendance policy. The Commission will be required to keep track of attendance and immediately report to the Senate whether a commissioner received a warning or received 3 unexcused absences, which will result in removal from office.

§ 205 Removal from Office

If any commissioner does not adhere to the Attendance policy or does not execute any other responsibilities outlined by the Election Code or Code of Student Governance, and then they are immediately placed on grounds for removal from office.

§ 206 Officers of Election

Pursuant to §202 of this Title, the Commission may appoint a student to serve as an officer of election, to serve for the duration of any election duly established by statute.

§ 207 Oath of Office

Officers of election shall be bound by an oath of office, pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 of the Student Body Constitution.

§ 208 General Powers

Officers of election shall have the power to:

- (1) Assist any Commissioner in administering ballots during an election;
- (2) Assist in any other duties the Commission may require during an election, except duties specifically prohibited.

§ 209 Restrictions

Officers of election shall not:

- (1) Be candidates for office or hold any other office under Student Government;
- (2) Assist any candidate for office or participate in any political campaign having a vested interest in the outcome of any election administered by the Commission;
- (3) Handle cast ballots or participate in the counting of cast ballots;
- (4) Participate in meetings of the Commission or hearings of the Judicial Board;
- (5) Exercise any powers expressly given to Commissioners.

§ 210 Reporting

- (1) The Commission shall report to the Senate or to the President upon request;
- (2) Within two weeks following an election, the Commission shall submit a written report to the Senate assessing the operations of the election. The report shall include conclusions on the effectiveness of election regulations, and recommendations on ways to improve electoral administration.

§ 211 Public Record

The Commission and the Election Judicial Board shall keep a full and public record of their meetings and any hearings or rulings that they may make.

§ 212 Candidates' Meetings

The Commission shall hold no less than two meetings with candidates for the purpose of allowing candidates to properly file documents pertaining to their candidacy and to provide candidates with all necessary information regarding the election and election procedures. Similarly, the Elections & Disputes Commission shall hold office hours during the period of the election in the Office of Student Involvement, to make themselves available for questions or concerns by candidates.

§ 213-01 Requirements of the Election

- (1) The Commission shall take all necessary steps to ensure that a website to provide for electronic voting will be utilized. The Commission shall ensure that the website is in proper working order.
- (2) The Commission shall publicize, to the satisfaction of the Student Senate, all relevant information to the conduct of the Student Government elections.

§ 214-02 Creation and Enforcement of an Election Code

In this Election code created and enforced by the Election and Disputes Commission (refer to Title IV, Subtitle II, Chapter 5 § 502), all rules of candidacy, campaigning, elections, the grievance process, and instances of disqualification, and any other rules will be outlined, that will These rules will govern the whole Election Process. The Elections and Disputes Commission will solely be responsible for enforcing the Election Code that they have created for the Election cycle.

§ 215-03 Prohibited Space

- (1) There should be absolutely no campaigning or discussion of elections or collection of signatures in the office of s-Student Involvement Office, with the exception of items that need to be delivered to the EDC or EDC Advisor. The Office of Student Involvement includes all spaces within the office; such as the Student Government Office, Program Board Office, Fraternity and Sorority Life, Lobby Area, Weekends, Imagination Station, etc.
- (2) All things regarding the election should not go past the front desk. The front desk area is only for picking up candidacy packets, dropping off candidacy packets, and dropping off grievances or notices to the EDC.
- (3) The offices of student involvement’s resources are not to be used for any election purposes.
- (3) There is to be no wearing or displaying on any campaign materials at any Student Government meeting, event, or gathering.

Passed the Student Senate: _____

Attest:

Speaker: Claire Olivier

Clerk: Amanda Attiya

President: Rebekah Pettine