ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 84
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Timothy Brandner
Sponsor(s): Elections Policy Committee
First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, Officials' actions involved with the election, such as the Elections Commissioner, Deputy Elections Commissioner, Board of Elections, and the Vice President, can jeopardize the integrity of the election, there needs to be stricter policy on the punishments for non-neutrality during the election process.

WHEREAS, There currently does not exist a way for the board of elections to remove a member from its board without the need for the senate.

Therefore, The Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 2, Article 2 of the Northern Illinois University Student Association Bylaws shall now read: (Edits to original bylaws in Red)

ARTICLE II
REQUIREMENT OF NEUTRALITY

Section 1
Public Neutrality

No member of the Board of Elections, the Vice President, or the Election Commissioner shall play an active role in the campaign of any candidate. Nor shall any of the above mentioned persons endorse, publicly support, or play an active role in advocating in public any candidate or referendum which is subject to election. However, the Vice President is exempt from these restrictions if they themselves are running for office.

A. All SA officials involved in the Senate Vacancy approval process must make all decisions in a viewpoint-neutral fashion. All candidates shall be judged objectively on their personal merit and character and not upon the views of the groups or organizations in which they are affiliated with.

Section 2
Penalties for Non-Neutrality

A. Any member of the Board of Elections, the Vice President, the Election Commissioner, and the Deputy Election Commissioner who fails to comply with the rule regarding Public Neutrality or whose misfeasance, malfeasance or incompetence jeopardizes the conduct of an election, will be subject to removal as prescribed herein and in the SA Constitution.

B. Any member of the Board of Elections is subject to removal by a 2/3 majority vote of all other members of the Board of Elections for violation of Public Neutrality.

C. The Elections Commissioner is subject to removal by a 2/3 majority vote of the Senate.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

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I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Donies, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THIRD day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

SEAL:

Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 85
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Deputy Speaker Kreml
Sponsor(s): Elections Policy Committee
First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, Rules and Procedures has changed the number of seats per district and the number of districts in the senate.

WHEREAS, A census committee has not been called in more than 4 years, but was most recently done for the redistricting of the senate.

WHEREAS, The senate and/or the Speaker of the Senate should have the authority to call for a census committee when they deem it necessary.

Therefore, The Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 2, Article 3 of the Northern Illinois University Student Association Bylaws shall now read: (Edits to original bylaws in Red)

ARTICLE III
SENATE VOTING DISTRICTS

Section 1
Voting Districts

A. DISTRICT 1: This district shall be composed of those students residing in any university provided housing.

B. DISTRICT 2: This district shall be composed of those students residing west of Annie-Glidden Road and north of I-88, but still within the DeKalb City Limits.

C. DISTRICT 3: This district shall be composed of those students residing east of Annie-Glidden Road and north of I-88, but still within the DeKalb City Limits.
D. DISTRICT 4: This district shall be composed of those students residing south of Interstate-88, or anywhere outside of DeKalb City Limits.

E. All questions and disputes regarding the district status of any candidate or student shall be directed to the Election Commissioner. Decisions of the Election Commissioner on the disputes referenced immediately above may be appealed to the Board of Elections.

Section 2
Senators per District

All districts shall be composed of ten (10) Senators.

Section 3
Census Committee

A committee shall be appointed whenever deemed necessary by the Speaker of the Senate, or by a simple majority of the senate, to perform a university census. The Senate may, at any time, vote to amend voting districts, or appoint a Census Committee, when it determines a change has occurred to student residency. A census shall be used to give the Senate an accurate representation of the students’ places of residence. This representation will then be used to recommend to the Senate on how best to compose the voting districts. The Census Committee shall be composed of one senator from each district and chaired by a member of the committee appointed by the Speaker of the Senate. It shall have no more than one month to complete its research and submit a proposal to the Senate body.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamaal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Donike, Speaker of the Senate
This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THIRTIETH day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

SEAL:

[Signature]

Joe Frascello, President
WHEREAS, There are a lot of sections dedicated to Candidate Qualifications for Office and this clutters up the bylaws.

WHEREAS, A candidate’s social security number is required for candidacy and should be kept confidential to only certain staff members.

WHEREAS, The bylaws are currently not very specific on residency requirements for office.

Therefore, The Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 2, Article 4 of the Northern Illinois University Student Association Bylaws shall now read: (Edits to original bylaws in Red)

ARTICLE IV
Candidate Qualifications

Section 1
Qualifications for Office

Refer to the SA Constitution for the most up-to-date qualifications for office.

Section 2
Release

All candidates running for office in the Student Association must sign a waiver releasing their name and Social Security number to the Director of SILD and Office Manager of the SA. The Director of SILD must then confirm that the candidate is in good academic standing through the Office of Registration and Records. The Director of SILD must then inform the Election Commissioner of the candidate’s eligibility. The Election Commissioner will
then inform the candidate of their eligibility and right to run for the office. At no time shall the election Commissioner see a candidate’s Social Security number.

Section 3

Residency Requirements

All candidates must reside in his/her own representative district at the time that their candidacy packet is turned in.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Domke, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THIRD day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

Joe Frascello, President
WHEREAS, There needs to be a list of alternate members for the Board of Elections in the event that a member is either removed by will, or by force as to not disrupt the elections process of the SA.

WHEREAS, Due to the new time table of the Senate elections, there will never need to be a Board of Elections to be selected while Senate is not in session.

Therefore, The Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 2, Article 5 of the Northern Illinois University Student Association Bylaws shall now read: (Edits to original bylaws in Red)

ARTICLE V

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Section 1

Selection of Members when the Senate is in Session

When the Senate is in Session, all person interested in becoming members of the Board of Elections shall apply with the Office Manager of the Student Association or shall be nominated at a senate meeting by a member of the Senate. Those who shall qualify to hold a position on the Board of Elections shall appear at the same Senate meeting. The senators shall vote on all candidates for membership on the Board of Elections at the same time. Each senator shall have one (1) vote. Senators who are being considered for positions on the Board may not vote in the determination of Board members. The seven (7) persons receiving the most votes shall become members of the Board. If a tie vote occurs, then the Senate shall vote again, only to break the tie and decide between those who are tied. The Senate meeting at which members of the Board of Elections are appointed shall be selected at the discretion of the Speaker of the Senate with the approval of the Senate and in coordination with the Vice President, Advisor to the Elections, the Elections Commissioner, and the Deputy Elections Commissioner. After the seven (7) members of the Board of Elections are decided, the senate will then select two alternate members to serve on the Board of Elections in the event that members are removed during the election process. The two individuals that the senate decides to be the alternates for the Board of Elections must be listed in the order in which they will assume the seats if a vacancy occurs. This order should be that the person receiving the 8th highest vote should be given first preference, the person receiving the 9th highest vote
should be given second preference. In the event that there are no alternates, the senate must appoint and approve the first and second alternates to the Board of Elections in order.

Section 2

Removal of a Member of the Board of Elections

After a person becomes a member of the Board of Elections, they shall only be removed during an election by resignation, a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Elections excluding the Board member in question, or in accordance with the Removal Process outlined in the Student Association Constitution.

Section 3

Selection of the Chair of the Board of Elections

The Senate shall vote a second time to choose one of the members of the Board and shall designate that person as Chair of the Board of Elections. The Senate shall vote with each senator having one vote. The person with the most votes shall become chair. If the Senate is not in session the Speaker shall designate one of the members of the Board to serve as its Chair.

Section 4

Removal of the Chair of the Board of Elections

After a person becomes the Chair of the Board of Elections, they shall only be removed during an election except by resignation, the Supreme Court, or in accordance with the Removal Process outlined in the Student Association Constitution.

Section 5

Qualification for Board Members

To serve on the Board of Elections, a student must not have been found responsible for academic misconduct, or be the defendant in any civil or criminal procedures with which the university is also a party. The student must also have and maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 during his or her tenure in office or be in their first semester at the University.
Section 6

Authority and Duties

A. The Board of Elections will assist the Election Commissioner and the Deputy Election Commissioner in the proper administration of all Student Association student elections and referenda and perform other duties as set forth herein.

B. The Board of Elections will be composed of seven (7) members, including the Board of Elections Chair. The Election Commissioner or an Acting Election Commissioner and the Deputy Election Commissioner or an acting Deputy Election Commissioner shall not serve as a member of the Board of Elections.

C. The Board of Elections shall have the authority to issue sanctions to any candidates, their supporter, or any other person interfering with an election. Only the Board of Elections, not the Election Commissioner, shall have the authority to disqualify any candidate(s) for office or election. The Board shall do so with a majority vote. The Election Commissioner shall have the authority to issue sanctions to candidates, their supporter, or any other person interfering with an election. The Board of Elections shall define a sanction as a statement of guilt to a person for violation of the election procedures, SA policies, or University policies, which carries with it a penalty. All sanctions must be issued in writing; however a standardized form may be used.

D. All rulings of the Board of Elections shall be in writing and shall be posted in the Student Association Office and available for review by any member of the SA or the student body within twenty-four (24) hours. Board rulings can only be made when a quorum is reached. Quorum for the Board shall consist of four (4) members. If the Chair is not present at a meeting, those present shall select one of their members to serve as Chair for the remainder of the meeting. The Election Commissioner, the Chair of the Board, the Board’s Official Advisor, or four (4) members of the Board may call a meeting of the Board.

E. When the Board shall meet to discuss giving a student a sanction, the candidate so affected shall be invited to the meeting and shall have the right to hear the argument against them from the Election Commissioner (or any other accuser) and the right to respond for the same length of time. Another student during this process may represent the candidate(s).

F. The duties of the Board of Elections shall include the publicizing and promoting of the elections. To ensure adequate publication and promotion of the elections the Board of elections shall be split into two (2) groups of three (3) board members. One group of three (3) shall focus on the senate elections and the other group of three (3) shall focus on the executive elections. The Board of Elections Chair shall meet with both groups to assist with publicizing and promoting the elections.

Section 7

Meeting Times
A. On the morning of each Election Day, the Board shall travel to each polling station. The Board shall insure that all campaign materials and persons are removed from the polling station. The Board shall also insure that all proper procedures are followed for the duration of the day.

B. On the day prior to each election the Board shall meet. Each day of the election, the Board shall meet immediately following the closing of the polling stations and all events necessary to secure the ballots. These meetings shall serve as the only point on each Election Day in which disqualification as a punishment shall be determined and issued. The Board shall hear all cases and issue all sanctions and/or punishments, in writing, that it shall deem necessary, prior to opening the sealed report from the Tabulation Officer.

C. A meeting of the Board may be called by the Election Commissioner, the Chair of the Board, the Board’s Official Advisor, or three (3) members of the Board.

D. A weekly meeting of the Board will be scheduled by the Election Commissioner to discuss the matters concerning the election.

This act is ordered to take effect following the conclusion of the Fall 2015 election.

I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Domke, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THID day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

Seal:

Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 88
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Deputy Speaker Kreml, Senator Summers, Senator Phillips, Timothy Brandner

Sponsor(s): Elections Policy Committee

First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, As a governing body over the elections, there needs to be a process in place to ensure that the members of the Board of Elections are acting responsible and are able to be held accountable.

WHEREAS, The Board of Elections is important and there needs to be an exact set of qualifications for its members.

Therefore, The Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 2, Article 5 of the Northern Illinois University Student Association Bylaws shall now read: (Edits to original bylaws in Red)

ARTICLE V

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Section 1

Selection of Members when the Senate is in Session

When the Senate is in Session, all person interested in becoming members of the Board of Elections shall apply with the Office Manager of the Student Association or shall be nominated at a senate meeting by a member of the Senate. Those who shall qualify to hold a position on the Board of Elections shall appear at the same Senate meeting. The senators shall vote on all candidates for membership on the Board of Elections at the same time. Each senator shall have one (1) vote. Senators who are being considered for positions on the Board may not vote in the determination of Board members. The five (5) persons receiving the most votes shall become members of the Board. If a tie vote occurs, then the Senate shall vote again, only to break the tie and decide between those who are tied. The Senate meeting at which members of the Board of Elections are appointed shall be selected at the discretion of the Speaker of the Senate with the approval of the Senate and in coordination with the President, Advisor to the Elections and the Elections Commissioner.

Section 2
Selection when the Senate is Not in Session

When the Senate is not in Session the following persons shall each choose one member to serve on the Board of Elections: The President, Vice President, Treasurer, Speaker, and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. If any of the person's listed in the previous sentence shall also be a candidate in the election covered by the Board, then the Supreme Court shall choose their member of the Board from among those who shall apply. The Board of Elections so appointed will hold office thereafter for the duration of the election in progress.

Section 3

Removal of a Member of the Board of Elections

After a person becomes a member of the Board of Elections, they shall only be removed during an election by resignation, a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Board of Elections excluding the Board member in question, or in accordance with the Removal Process outlined in the Student Association Constitution.

Section 4

Selection of the Chair of the Board of Elections

The Senate shall vote a second time to choose one of the members of the Board and shall designate that person as Chair of the Board of Elections. The Senate shall vote with each senator having one vote. The person with the most votes shall become chair. If the Senate is not in session the Speaker shall designate one of the members of the Board to serve as its Chair.

Section 5

Removal of the Chair of the Board of Elections

After a person becomes the Chair of the Board of Elections, they shall only be removed during an election except by resignation, the Supreme Court, or in accordance with the Removal Process outlined in the Student Association Constitution.

Section 6

Qualification for Board Members
To serve on the Board of Elections, a student must not have been found responsible for academic misconduct, or be the defendant in any civil or criminal procedures with which the university is also a party. The student must also have and maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.00 during his or her tenure in office or be in their first semester at the University.

Section 7
Authority and Duties

A. The Board of Elections will assist the Election Commissioner and the Deputy Election Commissioner in the proper administration of all Student Association student elections and referenda and perform other duties as set forth herein.

B. The Board of Elections will be composed of seven (7) members, including the Board of Elections Chair. The Election Commissioner or an Acting Election Commissioner and the Deputy Election Commissioner or an acting Deputy Election Commissioner shall not serve as a member of the Board of Elections.

C. The Board of Elections shall have the authority to issue sanctions to any candidates, their supporter, or any other person interfering with an election. Only the Board of Elections, not the Election Commissioner, shall have the authority to disqualify any candidate(s) for office or election. The Board shall do so with a majority vote. The Election Commissioner shall have the authority to issue sanctions to candidates, their supporter, or any other person interfering with an election. The Board of Elections shall define a sanction as a statement of guilt to a person for violation of the election procedures, SA policies, or University policies, which carries with it a penalty. All sanctions must be issued in writing; however a standardized form may be used.

D. All rulings of the Board of Elections shall be in writing and shall be posted in the Student Association Office and available for review by any member of the SA or the student body within twenty-four (24) hours. Board rulings can only be made when a quorum is reached. Quorum for the Board shall consist of four (4) members. If the Chair is not present at a meeting, those present shall select one of their members to serve as Chair for the remainder of the meeting. The Election Commissioner, the Chair of the Board, the Board’s Official Advisor, or four (4) members of the Board may call a meeting of the Board.

E. When the Board shall meet to discuss giving a student a sanction, the candidate so affected shall be invited to the meeting and shall have the right to hear the argument against them from the Election Commissioner (or any other accuser) and the right to respond for the same length of time. Another student during this process may represent the candidate(s).

F. The duties of the Board of Elections shall include the publicizing and promoting of the elections. To ensure adequate publication and promotion of the elections the Board of elections shall be split into two (2) groups of three (3) board members. One group of three (3) shall focus on the senate elections and the other group of three (3)
shall focus on the executive elections. The Board of Elections Chair shall meet with both groups to assist with publicizing and promoting the elections.

Section 8
Meeting Times

A. On the morning of each Election Day, the Board shall travel to each polling station. The Board shall insure that all campaign materials and persons are removed from the polling station. The Board shall also insure that all proper procedures are followed for the duration of the day.

B. On the day prior to each election the Board shall meet. Each day of the election, the Board shall meet immediately following the closing of the polling stations and all events necessary to secure the ballots. These meetings shall serve as the only point on each Election Day in which disqualification as a punishment shall be determined and issued. The Board shall hear all cases and issue all sanctions and/or punishments, in writing, that it shall deem necessary, prior to opening the sealed report from the Tabulation Officer.

C. A meeting of the Board may be called by the Election Commissioner, the Chair of the Board, the Board’s Official Advisor, or three (3) members of the Board.

D. A weekly meeting of the Board will be scheduled by the Election Commissioner to discuss the matters concerning the election.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Domke, Speaker of the Senate
This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in
DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THID day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

SEAL:

Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 89
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Senator LaGioia

Sponsor(s): Elections Policy Committee

First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, There are so many different places that have different qualifications for office that differ from the SA constitution.

WHEREAS, This will allow one easy update to all qualifications for office by a simple Constitutional amendment.

WHEREAS, This will be easier for the future.

Therefore, The Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 2, Article 6 of the Northern Illinois University Student Association Bylaws shall now read: (Edits to original bylaws in Red)

ARTICLE VI
ELECTION COMMISSIONER

Section 1
Selection when the Senate is in Session

The President with the approval of the Senate shall appoint the Election Commissioner for the Spring Election. The President shall nominate the Election Commissioner on Sunday, two weeks prior to the first day on which the election Packets will be available.

Section 2
Selection when the Senate is Not in Session

When the Senate is not in Session, the President with the approval of at least three of the five members of the Board of Elections shall appoint the Election Commissioner. The Election Commissioner so appointed will hold
office thereafter until the Senate can convene. If the President is unable to reach an agreement with the Board as to an Election Commissioner, then the Speaker shall appoint the Election Commissioner with the approval of at least three of the five members of the Board of Elections.

Section 3

Removal of Election Commissioner

After a person becomes Election Commissioner, they shall only be removed during an election except by resignation, the Supreme Court, or in accordance with the Removal Process outlined in the Student Association Constitution.

Section 4

Qualifications for Office

Refer to the SA Constitution for the most up-to-date qualifications for office.

Section 5

Authority and Duties

A. The Election Commissioner will administer all NIU Student Association elections and referenda in accordance with the SA Constitution, SA Bylaws, and Elections Policy. The Election Commissioner shall have responsibility for hiring, supervising, and processing payment for all poll workers. No person who is a student at NIU shall serve as a poll worker, except to fill in during emergencies as may occur and shall be defined by the Election Commissioner.

B. The Election Commissioner shall have the authority to issue sanctions to candidates, their supporter, or any other person interfering with an election. The Board of Elections shall define a sanction as a statement of guilt to a person for violation of the election procedures, SA policies, or University policies, which carries with it a penalty. All sanctions must be issued in writing; however a standardized form may be used.

C. All rulings of the Election Commissioner shall be in writing and shall be posted in the Student Association Office and available for review by any member of the SA or the student body within twenty-four (24) hours of business.
D. No sanction issued by the Election Commissioner shall carry with it a punishment that shall last for more than forty-eight (48) hours and/or cover more than three (3) buildings or locations. On the day(s) of an election, no sanction issued by the Election Commissioner shall carry with it a punishment that shall last for more than four (4) hours and/or cover more than one (1) building or location. The penalty for multiple sanctions may accumulate a series of sanctions that may last beyond the time limits indicated in this paragraph or cover multiple locations.

E. The Election Commissioner shall be responsible for holding an executive candidate debate, one week before the first day of Spring Elections.

F. No endorsement for any candidate may be written with chalk for the SA elections.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

[Signature]
Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

[Signature]
Dillon J. Dornke, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THIRD day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

[Signature]
Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 90
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Timothy Brandner
Sponsor(s): Elections Policy Committee
First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, The senate has already voted to make senate elections happen over the spring and for the Board of Elections to be composed of seven (7) members rather than the current five (5) members.

WHEREAS, The ruling of disqualification needs to be taken seriously, so there needs to be more members to agree to disqualify a candidate, or ticket.

Therefore, the Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 2, Article 8, Section 9, Sub-Section D of the Northern Illinois University Student Association Bylaws shall now read: (Edits to original bylaws in Red)

D. A note sanction to disqualify a candidate from an election shall require five (5) of the seven (7) members of the board to agree in writing, with the exception of automatically disqualifying offenses as listed herein.

This act is ordered to take effect following the conclusion of the Fall 2015 election.

I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Domke, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THID day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 91
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Elections Policy Committee

Sponsor(s): 

First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, The current bylaws are very vague when it came to a lot of the regulations for campaigning which created a lot of confusion in this past executive election.

WHEREAS, With the new timeline for when senate elections are to take place, there needed to be a new definition of what a campaign ticket was to avoid confusion.

WHEREAS, The current bylaws do not have a lot of explanation and support for the sanctioning process, including disqualification of candidates.

WHEREAS, To avoid confusion on a lot of the regulations, there needs to be a more defined regulation on how campaigning should be done for the offices of the SA.

Therefore, the Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 2, Article 8 of the Northern Illinois University Student Association Bylaws shall now read: (Edits to original bylaws in Red)

ARTICLE VIII
CAMPAIGNING REGULATIONS

Section 1
Printed Material

A. All candidates for all offices are required to file a signed copy of any printed campaign materials, including handbills and flyers, with the Election Commissioner before that material is posted or distributed. The terms of this paragraph shall also apply to any yard signs or like objects used by any candidate. However, a candidate can choose to file a color photograph of the sign(s) to be posted instead of filing a physical copy of the sign(s).

B. All posted material must be visibly stamped by the Student Involvement and Leadership development Office and the residence hall desk where applicable. One copy of all posted materials must be signed by the candidate(s) and left at the respective desk/office. In the case of yards signs or like objects, the office Student
Involvement and Leadership Development and the Elections Commissioner thereof must approve the contents, and the location of the posting must be approved by the University Grounds Department, where applicable.

C. Unstamped/unapproved campaign material will be confiscated by the Election Commissioner, Deputy Election Commissioner, or any Board of Elections member and kept on file with the Election Commissioner. In the event that more than ten (10) of said materials in violation of these regulations are collected and filed, the candidate(s) involved will be sanctioned to remove all of his/her/their posted material campus wide for a period of at least twenty-four (24) hours but no more than forty-eight (48) hours by the election commissioner or the Board of Elections. The candidate(s) involved will be granted four (4) hours after notification of the sanction in which to comply. If they do not comply within that time, further sanctions will be enforced.

D. All campaign material which is stamped by the Student Involvement and Leadership development office, displayed in a manner that violates University Posting Policy, may be removed by the Election Commissioner or his/her designee, and the candidate(s) to whom the material belong(s) will be forbidden from displaying campaign materials in the building in which the offense occurred for a period of not less than twenty-four (24) hours, but not more than forty-eight (48) hours.

E. No endorsement for any candidate may be written with chalk for the SA elections.

F. When candidates turn in their election packets they must do so personally and are required to wait outside the SA offices until the office manager arrives.

Section 2

Campaign Ticket

A campaign ticket shall be defined as a group of candidates running for offices in one branch of the Student Association. Any candidates for office shall have the right, if they so choose, to campaign as a ticket. This ticket shall be restricted to only campaigning, endorsing, any supporting in any way to only their ticket in their respective branches for which they are candidates for office. Any sanctions that a candidate receives during the election shall also be enforced upon all other candidates in that ticket.

Section 3

University Buildings
A. Under no circumstances will any campaigning of any type be allowed in university classrooms from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. This shall include, but not be limited to, speeches given outside the scope of class work, posting materials, use of blackboards or passing out materials.

B. No campaigning will be allowed in university classroom buildings that might tend to disrupt or hinder scheduled classes.

C. No campaigning will be allowed in any of the libraries, with the exception of posting materials on public bulletin boards.

D. All posted campaign materials are to be placed only upon public bulletin boards. Placement of posters upon any other bulletin board shall require the written permission of the Chair of the respective Department, or in the absence of the Department Chair, written permission from the respective college office.

Section 4

Campaign Infractions

Candidate(s) found to be acting in variance with these regulations shall be subject to the following actions:

A. For the first offense in a single location, the Election Commissioner or the Board shall forbid the candidate(s) from displaying campaign materials in the building or outdoor area (defined by the sanctioning body at the time the sanction is issued) in which the offense occurred for a period of time determined by the sanctioning body.

B. For each additional offense in the same location, the Election Commissioner or the Board shall forbid the candidate(s) from displaying campaign materials in any and all university buildings, in addition to any sanctions imposed under clause A.

Section 5

General Restrictions

A. No campaign material shall be allowed where it may physically deface or destroy property. This includes but is not exclusive of, posted materials, stickers of any type, banners, brochures, palm cards, buttons, novelties, and/or anything physically written, printed or drawn in any medium in and/or on any public vehicle or surface. No campaign material shall be posted using any kind of adhesive material.
B. In questions of defacement or irremovability, a candidate or designee's successive demonstrations of removability in all instances shall be sufficient.

C. Excessive litter of campaign materials shall be determined as excessive under the discretion and authority of the Board of Elections and shall constitute a punishment equal to that of a sanction as outlined in the sanction procedures in the Election Policy. Candidates that are found in violation of this regulation must immediately clean up and/or repair any and all damages they have caused. Those individuals found to be in violation will be held liable for any damages caused which require professional repair.

D. All campaign material sent through the mails must be properly postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service. Failure to do so will result in the candidate(s) being prohibited from campaigning in any and all residence halls where such materials were received, for the remainder of the campaign.

Section 6
Soliciting

No door-to-door solicitation of votes, or signatures, in the residence halls may be done at any time. The only form of solicitation that may be done inside of the residence halls must be in a public lobby of the building and the candidate must obtain written permission from the Complex Coordinator, or Acting Complex Coordinator, of that residence hall complex. If a candidate wishes to obtain signatures from students in the dining halls, they must also obtain written permission from that respective Unit Manager and the candidate may only solicit signatures in an area that does not disturb dining hall customers. No solicitation of votes shall be allowed inside of the dining hall areas. Those found in violation of this regulation will be forbidden from campaigning in that residence hall complex for the entire duration of the election.

Section 7
Violations of Law

Any candidate found to have campaigned in a way which violates any federal, state, county, or municipality law(s) will automatically be disqualified from the election, no exceptions.

Section 8
Election Day Restrictions
A. On Election Day(s) no campaigning will be allowed within 100 feet of any polling station. This shall include any means of verbal or nonverbal communications. The Election Commissioner prior to the opening of the polls on the first day of the election shall establish exceptions for the purpose of practicality.

1. Candidates and/or their workers who violate this regulation may not be allowed to distribute literature in the vicinity of that particular polling station where the violation occurred for the remainder of the election.

2. For any further violation of this regulation after the first, the candidate and/or their workers will not be allowed to distribute literature anywhere on campus for the remainder of the election.

B. No campaigning will be allowed inside any university building where there is a polling station on the day of the election. Candidates who are found to be in violation of this whether by their own actions or through the actions of their workers may be forbidden from campaigning at that polling station for the remainder of the election. For any further violation of this regulation after the first, the candidate(s) may be forbidden from campaigning anywhere on campus. No Candidate shall be sanctioned for a violation of this section unless it is shown by a substantial weight of the evidence that the candidate or someone working on behalf of the candidate was the violator. Candidates shall not be considered to be in violation of this section simply because someone possessed their campaign material inside of a polling place.

C. Campaigning is forbidden on any Huskie Line Bus, stationary or in motion during the elections. A violation of this may result in a sanction left up to the discretion of the Election Commissioner. Bulletin Boards on Huskie Line Buses may be used for posting campaign material.

D. There shall be no pseudo-polling stations created by candidates, constituents, or other persons outside of the Election Commissioner's designated polling stations. A pseudo-polling station is defined as an internet capable device(s) set up for the purpose of allowing fellow students to cast votes that is not an official polling station as determined by the Elections Commissioner and the Board of Elections.

Section 9
Sanctions

A. Sanctions may be imposed for violations by candidates or persons campaigning on their behalf as stated in the Bylaws, even if the candidate does not have specific knowledge of the person acting on their behalf. Whenever a sanction is issued, the Election Commissioner shall notify the SA Office Manager as soon as possible. The Office Manager shall notify by phone the candidate(s) sanctioned and post the sanction in the SA Main Office within four (4) Business hours.
B. In addition to the sanctions stated herein, the Board of Elections shall disqualify a candidate at any time before, during or after an election upon commission by the candidate or person(s) acting on behalf of the candidate of one or more of the following: five (5) or more separate violations of the SA election procedures before election day or three (3) or more separate violations of the SA election procedures on election day(s). Any disqualification under this rule is not appealable, and is automatically overturned if appeal of the individual violations lowers the total number of sanctions below the disqualifying number.

C. Any fraud relating to the election including, but not limited to, stuffing ballot boxes, altering or destroying ballots, buying votes, intimidating other candidates or voters, or repeated interference with another candidate’s campaign will result in immediate disqualification. If the candidate(s) or candidate's workers are caught interfering with another candidate(s) campaign, the applicable sanctions, or even disqualification from the race entirely will be levied upon the interfering candidate(s). Any sanction disqualifying a candidate under this rule may not be appealed; only the existence of the violation itself may be appealed and, if the violation is overturned, the resulting disqualification will automatically be overturned as well.

D. A note sanction to disqualify a candidate from an election shall require four (4) of the five (5) members of the board to agree in writing, with the exception of automatically disqualifying offenses as listed herein.

E. The Election Commissioner shall notify the candidate in writing of any sanction(s) and the reason(s) for the imposition of the sanction(s) as soon as possible after the imposition thereof. A copy of the written sanction(s) will be filed in the Office of the Student Association and will be available for review by any member of the NIIU student body. If additional evidence relating to a violation for which a candidate has been sanctioned or evidence of additional violations comes to the attention of the Election Commissioner after notice of original sanction(s) was provided to the candidate, the Election Commissioner will send separate written notice to the candidate of such new grounds or additional sanctions as soon as possible.

Section 10

Representatives of Candidates

A. Individual candidates and candidates campaigning as a team will be held responsible for the actions of all persons campaigning on their behalf either as individuals or as a team. Violations of these regulations will be charged against the candidate(s) themselves, and whenever applicable punishment for such violations will be levied upon the candidate(s).

B. Any individuals campaigning on behalf of a candidate will be considered representatives of that candidate even if the candidate did not request or instruct the individual to do so if and only if it can be shown that the candidate was aware that the individual was campaigning on their behalf and that the candidate.
C. Any candidates that find individuals campaigning for their benefit without permission should immediately report such an occurrence to the Election Commissioner. Failure to do so will warrant the candidate becoming responsible for that individual's conduct as a representative.

Section 11

Effects of Disqualification

In the event a candidate is disqualified, the candidate will not be allowed to assume office and any votes cast for him/her will not be counted and will be reported as disqualified votes. A disqualified candidate will be disqualified for the entirety of the election for which he/she ran for office, including special or runoff elections. Sanctions and punishments, including disqualification of a candidate, will remain in effect pending the outcome of any appeals. Each sanction must be appealed individually.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Domke, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DeKalb, Illinois on the third day of May, two thousand and fifteen.

Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 92
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Senator Koss
Sponsor(s): Elections Policy Committee
First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, The current bylaws are very vague when it comes to registration packets for the candidates, such as if they can sign their own petition.

Therefore, the Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 2, Article 9 of the Northern Illinois University Student Association Bylaws shall now read: (Edits to original bylaws in Red)

ARTICLE IX
CANDIDACY

Section 1
Registration

A. Each candidate for executive office must have the signatures of at least 400 fee-paying NIU students on his/her official petition. Each person who shall sign a petition shall give his or her printed name, signature, ZID number and local home phone number. The registering candidate cannot sign his or her own petition on their behalf. The Board of Elections shall check on the validity of signatures by randomly calling thirty (30) or more of the names listed on each candidate’s petition.

B. Each candidate for legislative office must have the signatures of 50 fee-paying NIU students on his/her official petition. Each person who shall sign a petition shall give his or her printed name, signature, ZID number and local home phone number. The registering candidate cannot sign his or her own petition on their behalf. The candidate cannot sign their own petition on their behalf. The Board of Elections shall check on the validity of signatures by randomly calling seven (7) or more of the names listed on each candidate’s petition.
C. Candidates for Student Association offices must do each of the following, prior to campaigning or being placed on the ballot: 1. Attend the candidates' meeting. 2. Receive, complete, and return the registration packet, with petitions 3. Provide proof of student status, hours enrolled, and residency upon request. 4. Qualify for office. 5. Receive notification from the Elections Commissioner of eligibility for office.

D. These rules shall apply to all candidates, including write-in candidates. Any candidate, who begins to campaign for office prior to being notified by the Elections Commissioner, shall be disqualified from election to office and from holding office.

Section 2

Unqualified Candidates

Candidates for any SA office are required to obey all applicable rules. Candidates who fail to qualify under all the rules described herein shall not be considered candidates. They shall not be allowed to campaign for themselves, nor shall they be placed upon the ballot.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

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I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Donker, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the 13TH day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 93
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Deputy Speaker Kreml, Senator LaGioia, Senator Diala

Sponsor(s): Elections Policy Committee

First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, The current bylaws do not explain the proper policies, procedures, and rules on special and runoff elections.

WHEREAS, Not all of the current polling stations get the most traffic and as such, one of the less popular polling stations should be moved to a better and more popular location.

WHEREAS, This past executive election saw a number of students who could not vote using the HuskieLink system and there was no proper procedure set in place for them to have their voices heard.

Therefore, the Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 2, Article 10 of the Northern Illinois University Student Association Bylaws shall now read: (Edits to original bylaws in Red)

ARTICLE X
ELECTIONS PROCEDURE

Section 1
Names

The following stipulations shall govern the acceptable forms of a candidate's name, as it is to appear on the petition/ballot:

A. The candidate's surname must appear in its full legal form.

B. The candidate's given (first) name or contracted form of that name must appear on the petition/ballot preceding his/her surname. The initial form of the candidate's given name may be used preceding a middle name in its full, diminutive or contracted (but not initial) form preceding the surname.
C. The Candidate’s middle name in its full, diminutive, contracted or initial form may appear at the discretion of the candidate in accordance with the above rules.

D. The Candidate’s nickname may appear on the petition/ballot placed anywhere between the given name/initial and legal surname. The candidate may use no more than one nickname on any petition/ballot. Any such nickname shall be enclosed in quotation marks wherever it appears.

E. No designation of title or degree may appear on any petition/ballot.

F. The Candidate’s nickname or party name may appear on the petition/ballot placed anywhere between the given name/initial and legal surname. The candidate may use no more than one nickname of no more than twenty characters, and no more than one party name composed of no more than twenty-five characters on any petition/ballot. Any such nickname shall be enclosed in quotation marks wherever it appears and any such party name shall be enclosed in parentheses.”

Section 2

Petitions

All petitions and all sheets therein on which candidates for office seek signatures shall include the following:

A. The name of the candidate on whose behalf the petition is being signed in compliance with the appropriate section of the SA Bylaws.

B. The office being sought.

C. The district of candidate residency.

D. All other wording as shall be required/determined by the Elections Commissioner.

Section 3

Number of Votes
In Senate election only, each student shall be eligible to vote for up to, but not exceeding eight (8) candidates in any district. In all executive elections, each student shall be eligible to vote for only one (1) candidate for each office.

Section 4

Ballot Boxes

The Election Commissioner shall provide one official ballot box for each polling station. All boxes shall be delivered, unopened and locked, to the polling station by the Commissioner or any officially designated member of the Board of Elections.

Section 5

Poll Workers

The Election Commissioner will be charged with the responsibility of dividing ballots, poll workers, and polling station according to the districts as outlined in the SA Bylaws. Two (2) poll workers will be assigned to each polling station at all times during the election. If at any time two (2) poll workers cannot be present at a polling station, it shall be temporarily closed in accord with Section 10, Paragraph D of this Article.

Section 6

Voting Times

The polls shall be open for two consecutive days from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for Fall and Spring elections.

Section 7

Polling Stations

The following locations shall have permanent polling stations: Holmes Student Center, DuSable Hall, Founders Memorial Library, New Residence Hall Community Center, and Barsema Hall. An official record of poll workers and voters shall be maintained at each polling station.

Section 8
Voter Identification

Any eligible student wishing to vote online must present an official, NIU Student ZID in order to submit a ballot. In the event of an online malfunction, students wishing to vote by paper ballot must present a valid NIU Student ID and/or whatever else is determined by the Election Commissioner to prove district residency and/or student registration in order to obtain a paper ballot. The paper ballot may be obtained in the SILD office and for the paper ballot to be counted as legal, it must be initialed by the director of SILD. The ballot must be cast in front of an employee of SILD to ensure proper voting procedure is followed.

Section 9

Voting Procedure

A. After determining a voter’s eligibility, the poll worker will initial the front of each ballot before handing it to the voter. No ballot will be considered valid unless such mark is affixed to the ballot.

B. Each voter shall deposit his/her ballot into the locked ballot box once he/she has voted.

C. In the Senate election, each voter is allowed to vote for up to eight (8) candidates. These votes can be cast for candidates running in any district.

D. Polling stations are to remain open at all times during the hours designated herein, unless closed for good and sufficient cause by authority of the Election Commissioner or Acting Election Commissioner. In the event a polling station is closed, written notice will be provided of the time the said polling station will reopen, if known, and of the location(s) of other polling stations where students may cast their votes.

E. A ballot box may be impounded at any time by authority of the Election Commissioner or Acting Election Commissioner for good and sufficient cause.

F. In the case of either of the above instances, the Commissioner is required to file an official written report stating the reasons for the temporary closure or impoundment within four (4) hours of its occurrence.

Section 10

Polling Station Identification
A. Upon the days of elections, banners identifying the buildings labeled as polling places are to be displayed on the outside of the location and nearest to the voting area. The banners will be neutral as well as advocating only that a SA sponsored election is taking place inside.

B. The Student Association logo must appear on all banners/signs displayed at the polling locations.

C. Banners must display the name of the building in which a polling place is located to avoid confusion and to allow easy recognition for their placement.

D. All banners and signs will remain visible and displayed during the duration of the Election Day, and will be removed upon the end of the final voting day.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

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I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Domke, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THID day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 94
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Senator Summers
Sponsor(s): Elections Policy Committee
First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, the proximity of Holmes Student Center and the Founder’s Memorial Library limits the diverse student body reached.

WHEREAS, Students of multiple colleges on campus are not currently reached with current polling locations. As well as off-campus and Greek row students have to come on campus to vote at a polling station.

WHEREAS, This past executive election saw a number of students who could not vote using the HuskieLink system and there was no proper procedure set in place for them to have their voices heard.

Therefore, the Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part II, Article X, Section 7 of the Bylaws shall read:

Section 7
Polling Stations

The following locations shall have permanent polling stations: Holmes Student Center, DuSable Hall, New Residence Hall Community Center, LaTourette Hall, the Nursing Building, Founder’s Memorial Library, Music Building, and Barsema Hall. An official record of poll workers and voters shall be maintained at each polling station.

This act is ordered to take effect at the conclusion of the 2015 Fall elections.

I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Domke, Speaker of the Senate
This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THIRD day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

[Seal]

Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 95
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Timothy Brandner
Sponsor(s): Elections Policy Committee
First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, Current Election Policy lists the existence of runoff elections and special elections, but includes little to no information regarding their procedure.

WHEREAS, Ambiguity in Election Policy can easily lead to confusion, improper conduct, and a compromised election.

WHEREAS, The Student Association should be prepared with specific procedures in case a runoff election or a special election is ever needed.

Therefore, the Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 2, Article 11 of the Northern Illinois University Student Association Bylaws shall now read: (Edits to original bylaws in Red)

ARTICLE XI
Runoff and Special Elections

Section 1
Runoff Elections

A. During the determination of winners for an executive election if no candidate receives a majority of votes the winner shall be determined by a runoff election. Only the two (2) candidates with the highest vote total may be eligible candidates during the runoff election.

   a. If no candidate receives a majority and there are more than two (2) candidates tied for the highest vote total then only those candidates tied for the highest vote total will be eligible candidates during the runoff election.

   b. If no candidate receives a majority, there is no tie for the highest vote total, and there is a tie for the second highest vote total then those candidates tied for the second highest vote total will all be eligible candidates during the runoff election.

B. During the determination of winners for a senatorial election if there is a tie between the candidate(s) competing for the final seat(s) the winner shall be determined by a runoff election. Only the candidates between whom the tie occurred will be eligible candidates during the runoff election.

Section 2
Special Election

In the event of an invalid election the winner shall be determined by a special election, during which all individuals who were valid and qualified candidates in the invalidated election will be eligible candidates in the special election.
Section 3
Procedure

A. A runoff or special election shall be held no later than one week after the election results are determined.
B. The winner of a runoff or special election shall be determined by a plurality vote.
C. No write-in candidates will be allowed during a runoff or special election. Any individual(s) who were write-in candidate(s) for the general election or invalidated election shall be placed on the ballot for a runoff or special election, respectively.
D. In the event of a tie during a runoff or special election an additional runoff election will be held, following the guidelines contained herein.

Section 4
Campaigning and Voting

A. All campaign rules and restrictions that apply to a general election will also apply to a runoff or special election.
B. Rules regarding voting, voter eligibility, voting methods, and voting locations that apply to a general election will also apply to a runoff or special election.
C. Voting will take place from 9:00am to 6:00pm for one day only.
D. All rules and restrictions that apply to the voting days of a general election will also apply to the voting day of a runoff or special election.

Section 5
Board of Elections and Election Commissioner

The Election Commissioner, Deputy Election Commissioner, Chairman of the Board of Elections, and Members of the Board of Elections shall remain the same between a general election and a runoff/special election. The Board of Elections will be required to meet prior to the start of the election day and at the end of the election day, subject to the same requirements prescribed for a general election.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Donike, Speaker of the Senate
This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THID day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

SEAL:

Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 96
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Senator Summers, Deputy Speaker Kremi

Sponsor(s): Elections Policy Committee

First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, Per Robert’s Rules of Order, a vote for a write-in candidate should count for the candidate if the spelling is close enough that it is easily understood who the vote is meant for.

Therefore, the Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 2, Article 12 of the Northern Illinois University Student Association Bylaws shall now read: (Edits to original bylaws in Red)

ARTICLE XII

TABULATION

Section 1

Tabulation Procedure

A. After the closing of the polls, the poll worker(s) shall wait for the Election Commissioner or his/her designated representative to arrive, identify his/herself, secure all elections materials and lock or seal the top of the ballot box before leaving.

B. All ballots are to be counted at one location. Ballots are to be counted by the Tabulation Officer as designated by the Election Commissioner. Ballots may be counted by electronic means. The Board prior to review election results shall review all problem ballots.

C. Any executive election candidate whose name appears on the ballot may designate one (1) person to observe any discussion of the validity of ballots. All candidates who shall campaign as a team may be required to choose only one observer to represent the entire ticket. Candidates may not represent themselves during this process. Any action by the candidate’s designated observer that disrupts the counting of the ballots will be cause for the observer’s removal and will constitute a campaign violation, which may subject the candidate to disqualification at anytime. During, the counting of ballots by machine those present shall be restricted to the Tabulation Officer, Board members, the Election Commissioner, Vice President, and the Board’s Official Advisor(s).
D. Once the ballot boxes are open and counting has begun, no candidate or candidate’s representative, other than a designated observer, will be permitted to be present in the area where the counting is taking place.

Section 2
Valid and Invalid Votes

The following votes shall not count in the determination of winners and shall be considered invalid votes for the office(s) so affected, and only for the office so affected. All valid votes on the same ballot for other offices shall be counted:

1. Votes for disqualified or unqualified candidate(s);

2. If votes for the candidate intended is not able to be determined in the opinion of the Board of Elections, they shall not count for the office so indicated. However, it shall be counted for all offices which the intended vote is able to be determined.

Section 3
Valid and Invalid Ballots

The following paper ballots shall not count in the determination of winners and shall be considered invalid votes for all the offices listed on the ballot:

1. A ballot that is not initialed by a poll worker will not be counted and will be reported as an invalid ballot;

2. A ballot which is properly initialed but which has too many votes cast on one ballot, or in which votes are cast in the wrong or more than one place;

3. A vote for an unregistered or disqualified write-in candidate;

4. A vote for a registered write-in candidate, but the name of the candidate is misspelled;

5. Ballots which are profane; and
6. Ballots on which a non-person is marked (such as animals or cartoon figures).

Section 4

Valid Votes and Ballots

Only the following votes shall count in the determination of winners and shall be considered valid votes for the office(s) so affected, and only for the office so affected. All valid votes on the same ballot for other offices shall be counted: and

1. A paper ballot which is properly initialed, but which is unmarked for any office, or a submitted online unmarked ballot;

2. A vote for a registered, non-disqualified write-in candidate, with the correct spelling of the candidate’s name; and

3. A vote for a non-disqualified candidate listed on the ballot, even if written in.

Section 5

Invalid Elections

A. Other than votes and ballots for disqualified candidates who appeared on the ballot, if the total number of invalid ballots in any election is greater than 5% of the total ballots cast in that election, the entire election will be ruled invalid. Ballots cast for a disqualified candidate will be disregarded for purposes of this Section, and will not count as either valid or invalid ballots.

B. If the difference between the total number of votes cast for any particular office in any particular election (including valid votes, valid no-votes, invalid votes and disqualified votes) and the number of valid signatures or ID presentations on that election’s voter registration lists is greater than 5%, the election will be ruled invalid.

C. An invalidated election must be re-run as a special election within one week of the invalidation.
D. Upon completion of the counting of the ballots, the Commissioner or a designated member of the Board shall make a reasonable attempt to contact all candidates or their official representatives as is feasible to locate at that time, and notify them of the results, prior to releasing the total to the public.

E. All returns shall immediately be made open to the public when the ballots have been completely tabulated and Paragraph D of this Section has been fulfilled.

F. All ballots and petitions must be accounted for and saved by the Election Commissioner for sixty (60) days. Following that time they shall be destroyed. The Election Commissioner shall issue a report of the results to the Senate and the President of the SA.

Section 6
Advance Copies of the Ballot

Copies of the voided, official ballot shall be given to the Tabulation Officer two (2) weeks prior to the first day of elections for the purpose calibrating machinery. If changes are made to the official ballot after this time, copies shall immediately be made available to the Tabulation Officer. After the machine counting process, the Tabulation Officer shall return all election results sealed to the Election Commissioner and Board Chair.

Section 7
Determination of Winners

A. The candidate receiving a majority of all legitimate and valid votes cast for the office in question shall be considered the winner for the offices of President, Vice President, or Treasurer. If no candidate shall receive a majority, then a runoff election for those candidates with the two highest vote totals shall be held.

B. The eight (8) Senate candidates with the most votes for each district shall be the winners. If a tie occurs, then a runoff election shall be held.

C. The person with the most votes in a runoff election shall be considered the winner. If a tie occurs, then a new runoff election shall be held. All runoff elections shall be held within one week and shall be for one day only.

D. Write-in candidates shall be considered legitimate candidates and shall be allowed to win elections provided that the Board has not disqualified them.
Section 8

Write-In Candidates

A. Spaces must be provided on the ballot for write-in candidates. These spaces must equal the number of available seats being contested. The ballot will instruct the voter that he/she may write in as many candidates as seats available in any district.

B. Write-in candidates shall register one version of their name, which must obey the same rules listed for candidates whose names appear on the ballot. Only this registered name shall be accepted as a vote for the candidate. An instruction sheet describing and illustrating how to cast a correct vote for a write-in candidate will be made available to students at all polling places. To be valid, a vote for a write-in candidate must be cast in the correct manner, which will be as follows: 1) the name written in on the ballot must be identical in form and spelling to the name which the write-in candidate registered; and, 2) a completed oval must appear before the name.

C. If a write-in candidate has not properly registered two (2) calendar weeks prior to the election, the votes cast for the candidate will not be counted in the determination of winners for that office, even though that ballot itself is still valid. The remaining votes will determine the winner. Any candidate who is not properly registered may not win an election and shall be considered disqualified.

D. Small technical errors, such as spelling mistakes do not make a vote illegal as long as the voter’s intent is discernible.

E. All write-in votes cast for persons who have registered as write-in candidates will be counted and reported with the election results. A write-in vote cast for a person whose name already appears on the ballot will be counted as a vote for that candidate. Any write-in candidate may win an election if he/she complies with the registration requirements of the election procedures.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.
This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THID day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.
WHEREAS, In the current bylaw procedures, there is a lot of ambiguity when it comes to what constitutes a proper appeal to the Board of Elections.

WHEREAS, In the current bylaws, there is a lot of confusion on the process to appeal the decisions of the Board of Elections.

Therefore, the Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 2 of the Student Association Bylaws shall be amended by adding Article 13, which shall read as follows: (Edits to original Article 12 in Red)

ARTICLE XIII

APPEALS

Section 1

Right to Appeal

A. All candidates will have the right to appeal any sanction imposed on them or ruling issued against them as prescribed herein.

B. All appeals of sanctions or rulings issued by the Election Commissioner must be given to the Board of Elections. Only the Board may hear appeals regarding sanctions or rulings issued by the Election Commissioner. Any student may appeal any ruling made by the Election Commissioner, relating to an election in which the person appealing is a candidate or voter, to the Board. However, the student making the appeal must be affected by the ruling. For the purposes of this section rulings shall include actions and decisions.

C. All appeals related to the constitutionality of actions taken by the Board of Elections must be given to the SA Supreme Court. Only the Supreme Court may hear appeals regarding constitutional interpretation, and the Supreme Court may only hear cases regarding constitutional interpretation, or violations by the Board of Elections, of the Constitution or Bylaws. Any student may appeal any ruling made by the Board, relating to an election in which the person appealing is a candidate or voter, to the Supreme Court. However, the student making the appeal must be affected by the ruling.
Section 2

Filing an Appeal to the Board

A. Prior to Election Day: All appeals to the Board must be filed within twenty-four (24) hours of the notice of action, or decision, of the Election Commissioner. Such time of action or decision must be written on the hard copy of the decision or action posted in the SA office. All appeals will be in writing and will be directed to the Chair of the Board of Elections who will, within four (4) hours of receipt of the appeal, notify the Elections Commissioner, Board of Elections Members, and other persons whom it may be reasonably assumed are relevant parties to the appeal, of both the filing of the appeal and the time at which a hearing will be held on the appeal. The SA Office Manager may receive appeals on behalf of the Chair, but shall immediately notify the Chair of the filing appeal.

B. The Board of Elections will hear and rule on any appeal within two (2) days, except on election days. Each day of elections and prior to reviewing any election results, the Board shall meet at the end of each election period and hear all requests for appeals that are pending. On the day of an election appeals may be made in person at the meetings of the Board, no written appeal is necessary. The Board of Elections may uphold, reverse, or modify any action or decision of the Election Commissioner appealed to the Board.

C. No appeal may be made to the Board after eighteen (18) hours after the close of the polling stations on the last day of the election, unless entirely new information has been discovered and the person making the appeal could not be properly expected to have known about the information.

D. During an appeal all elections will proceed as scheduled, unless the Board concludes that the conduct of a fair election has been rendered impossible due to a violation(s) of the election procedures.

E. In the event of an appeal, the Election Commissioner will impound all ballots and seal all election results pending the exhaustion of all appeals to the Board of Elections and the SA Supreme Court.

Section 3

Appeal to the SA Supreme Court

A. The submission of the appeal must be made pursuant to the procedures set forth by the Supreme Court's Code of Procedure, or in its silence by the Chief Justice. Copies may be obtained from the SA Main Office.
B. The Supreme Court's role in the appeals process is only to rule on constitutionality. The Supreme Court may act to interpret the Constitution and Bylaws, and may overturn decisions of the Board of Election if such a decision directly violates the Constitution, or Bylaws. However, the Supreme Court may not overturn a sanction of the Board of Elections, or similarly overturn a decision not to sanction, unless making such a decision was a strict violation of the Constitution or Bylaws, or the Board committed reversible error when making the decision by violating the Bylaws, Election Procedure, or Constitution, during the decision-making process. The existence of reversible error may only be grounds to overturn a sanction, but may never be cited as grounds to overturn a decision not to sanction.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.

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I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Domke, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THIRD day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

Joe Frascello, President

Seal:
WHEREAS, There are currently no standards candidates for Student Association elected positions are held to for what they spend and what they receive as contributions during elections.

WHEREAS, This is a requirement on other university campuses and the Northern Illinois Student Association is striving for transparency.

WHEREAS, As candidates for public office on the Northern Illinois University campus they have a duty to their constituents of honesty and integrity and this can be furthered by providing an expenditure report.

Therefore, the Student of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part II of the Student Association Bylaws shall be amended by adding Article XIV, which shall read as follows:

**Article XIV**

**Expenditure Reporting**

**Section 1**

**Requirement to Disclose**

A. All candidates shall be required to keep record of all campaign expenditures and provide proof of those expenditures. This report can come from a ticket and/or a candidate.

B. All candidates shall be required to keep record of all campaign contributions that shall include the following minimum requirements:

   1. Name of contributing organization or individual
   2. Amount contributed

C. All candidates shall be required to keep record of all campaign contributions that they make from their own personal resources that shall include the following minimum requirements:

   1. Individual contributions
   2. Amount contributed
D. All candidates shall keep records of all donated goods and services along with the fair market value of those services that shall include the following minimum requirements:

1. Name of contributing or individual
2. Type of donated goods and services
3. Value of donated goods and services

A service provided free of charge by a member of the Student Body shall not constitute a campaign contribution, but must still be recorded.

E. Fair market value shall be defined as the price at which the property would change hands between a willing buyer and a willing seller, neither being under any compulsion to buy or to sell and both having reasonable knowledge of relevant facts, except in the case of private discount not available to the general public. If a good or service is offered at a discounted price, and the discount in question is not available to the general public, the price available to the general public must be reported as the fair market value.

Section 2

Financial Disclosures

A. The method and format of all financial disclosure shall be at the discretion of the Election Commissioner, with the approval of the Student Association Treasurer. If the Treasurer is a candidate themselves then the Deputy Treasurer will be required to approve these disclosures. If the Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer are both candidates themselves, then the Vice Chair of the Finance Committee will be required to approve these disclosures.

B. All candidates shall disclose each expense and/or donation to the Election Commissioner as it occurs. No candidate shall be allowed to use campaign material without first reporting its financial record to the Election Commissioner.

C. All candidates shall submit a projected final expense report before the open of polls on the first day of voting that shall include:

1. All campaign expenditures
2. Fair market value of all goods and services
3. Contributed funds

C. A final financial report shall be submitted by the close of polls on the final date of polling and it shall include:

1. A full account of all campaign expenses
2. A full disclosure of all donated funds, services and materials
3. Copies of all receipts and financial records associated with the campaign

D. Any candidate, or ticket, who is found to have falsified, or omitted, any information relating to this article shall be immediately disqualified for all offices in which the candidate, or ticket, are a candidate(s) for.
Section 3
Public Reporting

A. The Election Commissioner, with the guidance of the Student Association Treasurer shall make the financial records of each campaign public, before any election results are announced. If the Treasurer is a candidate themselves then the Deputy Treasurer will be required to make the financial records of each campaign public. If the Treasurer and Deputy Treasurer are both candidates themselves, then the Vice Chair of the Finance Committee will be required to make the financial records of each campaign public. Each record shall be made public record upon receipt from each candidate.

B. The Election Commissioner shall create a final financial report of all campaigns that shall be documented by the Student Association Historian for public review. The report shall include:

1. The total amount of election expenses from the ticket and/or candidate
2. A financial report of each ticket and/or candidate
3. A record of any financial violations.

This act is ordered to effect following the conclusion of the Fall 2015 election.

I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Dumble, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the 10TH day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 99
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Deputy Speaker Kreml

Sponsor(s):

First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, Being the current Deputy Speaker of the Senate, I know what I have been working on these past five months. There are some responsibilities that need to be updated and explained better.

WHEREAS, The Deputy Speaker of the Senate position became a paid position within the Senate and should be given some more responsibilities.

WHEREAS, The current language of the position needs to be updated and reformatted as there are errors in what specifically the role is to be doing.

Therefore the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

Part 1, Article 2, Section 1, Subsection P of the Northern Illinois University Student Association Bylaws shall now read:

P. The Speaker shall have the authority to appoint the Deputy Speaker of the Senate.

The Deputy Speaker shall:

1. Be a currently elected Senator appointed by the Speaker of the Senate and confirmed by the Senate via a simple majority vote.

2. Be confirmed by the Senate no earlier than the third scheduled meeting of the academic year.

3. Provide additional oversight and direction to the Senate Chairs by conducting weekly chairs meetings, coordinating overall activities of the chairs, collecting weekly committee meeting reports, and by meeting with individual chairs one on one once every month.

4. Meet with the Speaker of the Senate at least once a week to discuss the progress of the Senate committees and recommend a course of action for any committee that needs guidance.

5. Assist the Speaker of the Senate in the execution of their duties.
6. Temporarily carry out the duties and responsibilities of Speaker of the Senate when directed by the Speaker or in the absence of the Speaker.

7. Become Acting Speaker if at any time the Speaker shall resign, be removed, or otherwise leave office before the end of the term. The Acting Speaker shall only hold office until the Senate chooses a new Speaker at the first regular Senate meeting after the vacancy has occurred.

8. Maintain chair office hour records for purposes of ensuring proper conduct of senate committee chairs.


10. Be an ex-officio member of all Senate Committees, both Standing and Ad-Hoc, in which they are not already a regular member, secretary, vice chair, or chairperson.

This act is ordered to immediate effect.

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I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Dornke, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THID day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 100
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Speaker Domke

Sponsor(s):

First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, The Vice-President of the Student Association has granted Students for Educating Future Educators in Diverse/Underrepresented Districts temporary recognition

WHEREAS, the senate has the responsibility of approving student groups for complete recognition

Therefore the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:
That the Student Association grants permanent recognition to Students for Educating Future Educators in Diverse/Underrepresented Districts.

This act is ordered to immediate effect.

I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Domke, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THID day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

SEAL:

Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 101
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Speaker Domke

Sponsor(s):

First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, The Vice-President of the Student Association has granted Northern Illinois University Tech Barks temporary recognition

WHEREAS, the senate has the responsibility of approving student groups for complete recognition

Therefore the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:

That the Student Association grants permanent recognition to Northern Illinois University Tech Barks.

This act is ordered to immediate effect.

I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

Dillon J. Domke, Speaker of the Senate

Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THIRD day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

Seal:

Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 102
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Speaker Domke

Sponsor(s):

First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, The Vice-President of the Student Association has granted Final Warning Dance Team temporary recognition

WHEREAS, the senate has the responsibility of approving student groups for complete recognition

Therefore the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:
That the Student Association grants permanent recognition to Final Warning Dance Team.

This act is ordered to immediate effect.

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I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

[Signature]
Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

Dillon J. Domke, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THIRTIETH day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

[Seal]
Joe Frascello, President
ENROLLED SENATE BILL No. 103
Forty-Sixth Session

Author(s): Speaker Domke

Sponsor(s):

First Reading: 3 May 2015

WHEREAS, The Vice-President of the Student Association has granted Dance Marathon Northern Illinois University temporary recognition

WHEREAS, the senate has the responsibility of approving student groups for complete recognition

Therefore the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact:
That the Student Association grants permanent recognition to Dance Marathon Northern Illinois University.

This act is ordered to immediate effect.

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I hereby verify that the Student Association Senate has approved the following legislation in accordance with the rules and requirements set forth in the Student Association Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Operating Rules and Procedures.

[Signature]
Jamal Pasha Mohammed, Clerk of the Senate

[Signature]
Dillon J. Domke, Speaker of the Senate

This legislation is now considered binding under the laws of the Student Association, given under my hand in DEKALB, ILLINOIS on the THID day of MAY, TWO THOUSAND AND FIFTEEN.

[Seal]
Joe Frascello, President