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| **STUDENT GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTION PROPOSED CHANGES INDEX** |

| ***#*** | ***Article Number*** | ***Section Name*** | ***Section Number*** | ***Proposed Change*** | ***Rationale for Change*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | [Article I](#Name) | [Name and Purpose](#Name) | Section 3 | ADDED: Includes university’s statement prohibiting discrimination, “The rules, regulations, and policies of Student Government are to be free of discrimination based on race, color, national origin, age, sex, religion, disability, veterans’ status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.” |  |
|  | [Article III](#Structure)  | [Structure](#Structure) | Section 1 | REMOVED: Supreme Court Chief Justice as a member of the Cabinet. |  |
|  | [Article III](#Structure)  | [Structure](#Structure) | Section 1 | ADDED: Specifies Chief of Staff as a member of the Cabinet. |  |
|  | [Article III](#Structure)  | [Structure](#Structure) | Section 1 | ADDED: Specifies the Senate represents all students while the House legislates for graduate students only. |  |
|  | [Article III](#Structure)  | [Structure](#Structure) | Section 1 | ADDED: Specifies the Senate and House are the two parts of the Legislative branch and are referred to as the “Assembly’ when they are together. |  |
|  | [Article III](#Structure)  | [Structure](#Structure) | Section 1 | ADDED: Specifies the Election Board as a part of the Judicial branch. |  |
|  | [Article III](#Structure)  | [Structure](#Structure) | Section 4 | ADDED: Specifies the laws of Student Government are codified in a Student Government Code of Laws that consists of two parts, which are the TSUS Regent Rules governed bylaws (relating to ethical rules, election rules, and overall structure) and the organization’s operational procedures. |  |
|  | [Article III](#Structure)  | [Structure](#Structure) | Section 8 | ADDED: Specifies the Supreme Court Justices and the Election Board members serve a term of two years with alternating terms. |  |
|  | [Article III](#Structure)  | [Structure](#Structure) | Section 11 | ADDED: Specifies the Advisor is the Dean of Students and a Dean of Students assigned staff person as co-advisor to the whole organization. |  |
| 1.
 | [Article III](#Structure)  | [Structure](#Structure) | Section 11 | ADDED: Specifies Student Government authorizes the Dean of the Graduate College and/or the Dean’s designee from the Graduate College faculty or staff may serve in an advisory role to the Graduate House of Representatives. |  |
|  | [Article III](#Structure)  | [Structure](#Structure) | Section 11 | ADDED: Specifies Student Government authorizes an advisor as appointed by the Provost to consult as needed for advisory opinions regarding hearings and appeals |  |
|  | [Article III](#Structure)  | [Structure](#Structure) | Section 13 | ADDED: Specifies proceedings of Student Government will be free of disruption as defined in university policy [UPPS No. 05.04.03](https://policies.txstate.edu/university-policies/05-04-03.html), the [student handbook on disruptive activities policy](https://studenthandbook.txstate.edu/rules-and-policies/university-policies.html) or local, state, and federal law. |  |
|  | Article IV | The Executive | n/a (Title of Article) | ADDED: Introduced use of the term “Executive” as title of and use within entire Article in addition to the use of “Cabinet” regarding the body that includes the President, Vice President, Chief of Staff and Directors of Departments. |  |
|  | [Article IV](#Cabinet)  | The Executive | Section 2 | ADDED: Specifies Chief of Staff as a member of the Cabinet. |  |
| 1.
 | [Article IV](#Cabinet)  | The Executive | Section 2 | REMOVED: The Supreme Court Chief Justice, Senate Leader and House Leader as members of the Cabinet. |  |
|  | [Article IV](#Cabinet)  | The Executive | Section 2 | ADDED: Specifies the Senate Leader and House Leader may attend Cabinet meetings in advisory capacity but have no rights or responsibilities. |  |
|  | [Article IV](#Cabinet)  | The Executive | Section 2 | ADDED: Specifies Department Directors automatically become Ex-officio Senators upon confirmation, which includes current Senators whose status changes from voting to ex-officio creating vacant Senate seats. |  |
| 1.
 | [Article IV](#Cabinet)  | The Executive | Section 6 | ADDED: Specifies situations when the President is relieved from office. |  |
|  | [Article IV](#Cabinet)  | The Executive | Section 7 | ADDED: Specifies situations when the President is temporarily removed from office. |  |
|  | [Article IV](#Cabinet)  | The Executive | Section 9 | ADDED: Specifies situations when the Vice President is relieved of office. |  |
|  | [Article IV](#Cabinet)  | The Executive | Section 10 | ADDED: Specifies duties of the Chief of Staff. |  |
|  | [Article IV](#Cabinet)  | The Executive | Section 11 | ADDED: Specifies “Departments” of Student Government, which replaces the currently named “Commissions.” |  |
|  | [Article IV](#Cabinet)  | The Executive | Section 11 | ADDED: Specifies the number of Departments are limited to six of which must include the three Departments of: Finance responsible for the fiscal matters of Student Government; Marketing and Outreach responsible for managing media, communication and public relations of Student Government; and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion responsible for fostering discussion, dialogue, education, and advocacy of issues important to underrepresented student populations. |  |
|  | [Article V](#Assembly)  | [The Assembly](#Assembly) | Section 1 | ADDED: Specifies the Assembly will meet at least once each year on the third Monday of April at a time and place established by the Vice President. |  |
|  | [Article V](#Assembly)  | [The Assembly](#Assembly) | Section 3 | ADDED: Defines quorum for a Joint Session of the Assembly as “one more than half of the total number of Senators and Representatives on the roster at time the meeting is called of which at least 4 must be Representatives.” |  |
|  | [Article V](#Assembly)  | [The Assembly](#Assembly) | Section 4 | ADDED: Specifies in the event that quorum is not met, the chair of the meeting may hold the membership of the chamber for a time period not to exceed 45 minutes while all constitutional and parliamentary procedures are exercised to attain quorum. |  |
| 1.
 | [Article V](#Assembly)  | [The Assembly](#Assembly) | Section 5 | ADDED: Specifies abstentions have no effect in the quorum requirement nor on the vote result as they do not count toward the affirmative or negative but changes the threshold of passage and members who abstain from voting must state the reason for the record. |  |
|  | [Article V](#Assembly)  | [The Assembly](#Assembly) | Section 7 | ADDED: Specifies allowing to vote by teleconference with permission of the Chair for House Representatives and for Senators who are a part of the Round Rock Campus. |  |
|  | [Article V](#Assembly)  | [The Assembly](#Assembly) | Section 11 | ADDED: Specifies a Joint Committee of both chambers will be established to facilitate the reconciliation of differences of opinion between the Senate and House. The Assembly may establish other joint committees as needed. |  |
|  | [Article V](#Assembly)  | [The Assembly](#Assembly) | Section 13 | ADDED: Specifies a joint Nominations and Appointments Committee established by the Senate will determine if applicants meet Student Government standards for appointments to Cabinet, Judicial, Election Board, and vacant elected Senate positions. The committee will recommend qualified applicants to be considered for nomination by the President and confirmed by the Senate or the House if a graduate student. |  |
|  | [Article V](#Assembly)  | [The Assembly](#Assembly) | Section 14 | ADDED: Specifies the Nominations and Appointments Committee will have seven members including the Senate Leader as chair. At least four members will be Senators nominated by the Senate Leader and confirmed by two-thirds vote of the Senate. At least one member will be a Representative selected by the House. The Senate Leader will nominate replacement members in the event of a committee vacancy to be confirmed by the Senate. Members of the committee will remain members for two years, unless they are no longer a Senator or House member or resign from the committee. |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Senate)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 3 | CHANGED: Specifies the Senate is composed of 45 Senators in total. from 33 at-large Senators who are elected from the student body, and 12 Senators who are appointed by the respective organizations to represent students from underrepresented groups. |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Senate)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 3 | REMOVED: Senators from each academic college. |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Senate)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 4 | ADDED: Specifies 12 appointed Senators are to ensure inclusivity of voices from underrepresented groups and are to be appointed by student organizations or selected by offices to provide four student representatives from Underrepresented Students Advisory Council (USAC) and one student representative from each of the following: Lambda of Texas State; Freshman Council; Non-Traditional Student Organization (NTSO); Foster Care Alumni Creating Educational Success (FACES); Residence Hall Association (RHA); Veterans Alliance of Texas State; the Office of Disability Services (ODS); and the Office of International Student and Scholars Services (ISSS), |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Senate)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 5 | ADDED: Quorum is defined in the Senate as one more than half the Senators on the roster at the time a meeting starts. |  |
|  | Article VI | The Student Senate | Section 6 | ADDED: Specifies only members of the Senate are allowed to speak during debate and discussion. |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Senate)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 7 | ADDED: Specifies in the event that quorum is not met, the chair of the meeting may hold the membership of the chamber for a time period not to exceed 45 minutes while all constitutional and parliamentary procedures are exercised to attain quorum. |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Senate)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 8 | ADDED: Specifies a special election must occur to fill vacant Senate seats if membership falls below 22 Senators. |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Assembly)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 9 | ADDED: Specifies abstentions have no effect in the quorum requirement nor on the vote result as they do not count toward the affirmative or negative but change the threshold of passage and members who abstain from voting must state the reason for the record. |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Senate)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 12 | ADDED: Specifies allowing to vote by teleconference with permission of the Chair for Senators who are a part of the Round Rock Campus. |  |
|  | Article VI | The Student Senate | Section 13 | ADDED: Specifies that the Senate will have sole power to try all impeachments. |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Senate)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 14 | ADDED: Specifies removal through expulsion a Senate member for behavior contrary to the Student Government’s written code of ethics or violating the code of student conduct, federal or state law, misrepresenting the will or official position of the Student Government, the abandonment of duty, or abuse of power in their position. |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Senate)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 15 | ADDED: Specifies Senators who have been expelled may appeal their expulsion to the Supreme Court on due process grounds only. |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Senate)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 22 | ADDED: Specifies Senate Parliamentarian election and duties including serving as a Senator and acting as Sergeant at Arms. |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Senate)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 23 | ADDED: Specifies removal of Senate Leader or Parliamentarian from officer positions by Vote of No Confidence. |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Senate)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 26 | ADDED: Specifies the Senate will meet on the first Monday of the first full week of classes in the fall semester at a time and location as predetermined by the Senate Chair, and thereafter every Monday at that same time and location. The Senate will enter recess in the fall semester during the first week of finals until the first full week of classes in the Spring semester, and again in the Spring semester on the first week of finals until the first full week of classes in the Fall semester. The Senate will not meet on holidays, or during any university closure. Any change to the meeting time or place after having been set on the first meeting will require two-thirds approval of the Senate. The Senate Chair may change the meeting location and time due to an unexpected university situation. |  |
|  | [Article VI](#Senate)  | [The Student Senate](#Senate) | Section 27 | ADDED: Specifies the time, place, and agenda of Senate meetings will be made public on the Student Government website at least three days beforehand. All proceedings will be documented, including final votes of legislation, which must be made public within three days after the meeting. |  |
|  | [Article VII](#House)  | [The Graduate House](#House) of Representatives | Section 1 | ADDED: Specifies the House is an appointed body to represent graduate students. |  |
|  | [Article VII](#House)  | [The Graduate House](#House) of Representatives | Section 2 | ADDED: Specifies the House has limited regulatory power over the rest of Student Government but must exercise exclusive rights over the regulation of the House and has sole power of Impeachment. |  |
|  | [Article VII](#House)  | [The Graduate House](#House) of Representatives | Section 5 | ADDED: Defines quorum in the House as one more than half the total number of Representatives in the House as apportioned by the constitution. |  |
|  | [Article VII](#House)  | [The Graduate House](#House) of Representatives | Section 6 | ADDED: Specifies in the event that quorum is not met, the chair of the meeting may hold the membership of the chamber for a time period not to exceed 45 minutes while all constitutional and parliamentary procedures are exercised to attain quorum. |  |
|  | [Article VII](#House)  | [The Graduate House](#House) of Representatives | Section 7 | ADDED: Specifies abstentions have no effect in the quorum requirement nor on the vote result as they do not count toward the affirmative or negative but change the threshold of passage and members who abstain from voting must state the reason for the record. |  |
|  | [Article VII](#House)  | [The Graduate House](#House) of Representatives | Section 9 | ADDED: Specifies allowing to vote by teleconference with permission of the Chair. |  |
|  | [Article VII](#House)  | [The Graduate House](#House) of Representatives | Section 10 | ADDED: Specifies removal through expulsion of a House member for behavior contrary to the Student Government’s written code of ethics or violating the code of student conduct, federal or state law, misrepresenting the will or official position of the Student Government, the abandonment of duty, or abuse of power in their position. |  |
|  | [Article VII](#House)  | [The Graduate House](#House) of Representatives | Section 11 | ADDED: Specifies Representatives who have been expelled may appeal their expulsion to the Supreme Court on due process grounds only. |  |
|  | [Article VII](#House)  | [The Graduate House](#House) of Representatives | Section 16 | ADDED: Specifies House Parliamentarian election and duties including serving as a Senator and acting as Sergeant at Arms. |  |
|  | [Article VII](#House)  | [The Graduate House](#House) of Representatives | Section 17 | ADDED: Specifies removal of House Leader or Parliamentarian from officer positions by Vote of No Confidence. |  |
|  | [Article VII](#House)  | [The Graduate House](#House) of Representatives | Section 19 | ADDED: Specifies the House will meet on the first Friday of the first full week of classes in the fall semester at a time and location as predetermined by the House Chair and thereafter every other Friday at that same time and location. The House will enter recess in the fall semester during the first week of finals until the first full week of classes in the spring semester, and again in the spring semester on the first week of finals until the first full week of classes in the fall semester. The House will not meet on holidays or during any university closure. Any change to the meeting time or place after having been set on the first meeting will require a two-thirds approval of the House. The House Chair may change the meeting location and time due to an unexpected university situation. |  |
|  | [Article VIII](#Judiciary)  | [The Judiciary](#Judiciary) | Section 1 | ADDED: Specifies the Election Board as a part of the Judiciary. |  |
|  | [Article VIII](#Judiciary)  | [The Judiciary](#Judiciary) | Section 3 | ADDED: Specifies terms of office for Chief Justice and Justices is for two years. |  |
|  | [Article VIII](#Judiciary)  | [The Judiciary](#Judiciary) | Section 3 | CHANGED: Specifies the Chief Justice is elected by a majority vote from the seven Justices when no fewer than three Justices are seated and present at the election. |  |
|  | [Article VIII](#Judiciary)  | [The Judiciary](#Judiciary) | Section 6 | CHANGED: Specifies the Election Board consists of five members. From the three members, one will be selected by the Chief Justice to serve as Chair, |  |
|  | [Article VIII](#Judiciary)  | [The Judiciary](#Judiciary) | Section 7 | ADDED: Specifies rights and due process for students during court proceedings. |  |
|  | [Article VIII](#Judiciary)  | [The Judiciary](#Judiciary) | Section 8 | ADDED: Specifies line of appeals including deadlines by when to appeal decisions. |  |
|  | [Article VIII](#Judiciary)  | [The Judiciary](#Judiciary) | Section 9 | ADDED: Specifies members of the Judiciary will not seek appointment to Student Government positions for one year after serving in their position. |  |
|  | [Article VIII](#Judiciary)  | [The Judiciary](#Judiciary) | Section 10 | ADDED: Specifies the orders and opinions of the Supreme Court must have persuasive precedential value in subsequent decisions of the Supreme Court and must have binding precedential value overall proceedings of lower courts. |  |
|  | [Article IX](#Elections)  | [Elections](#Elections)  | Section 3 | ADDED: Specifies candidates for office will run with shared goals as part of an alliance or independently. |  |
|  | [Article IX](#Elections)  | [Elections](#Elections)  | Section 4 | ADDED: Specifies Texas State students will cast one vote each for a President and Vice President candidate, and one vote for each position available for Senate candidates. Votes are cast for candidates, regardless of alliance or independent affiliation. |  |
|  | [Article IX](#Elections)  | [Elections](#Elections)  | Section 5 | ADDED: Defines campaign agenda as a stated set of campaign principles or initiatives that provide information about the candidates intended goals if elected. |  |
|  | [Article IX](#Elections)  | [Elections](#Elections)  | Section 6 | ADDED: Specifies candidates running as part of an “Alliance,” must establish a shared campaign agenda and a list of at least five candidates running for office: A President, a Vice President, and at least three Senators. |  |
|  | [Article IX](#Elections)  | [Elections](#Elections)  | Section 7 | ADDED: Specifies candidates running independently must establish an executive agenda and may only run for a Senate position. Candidates for President and Vice President must form an alliance. |  |
|  | [Article IX](#Elections)  | [Elections](#Elections)  | Section 8 | ADDED: Specifies potential candidates will be allowed a period of time to explore and gauge interest in forming an alliance based on shared ideas. The exploration period will open on November 1 and close no later than the filing deadline. During this period, a potential candidate may publicly recruit other potential candidates to run on an alliance. |  |
|  | [Article IX](#Elections)  | [Elections](#Elections)  | Section 15 | ADDED: Specifies an alliance must have a candidate for President, Vice President, and a minimum of three Senate candidates to be certified. |  |
|  | [Article X](#Appointments)  | [Appointments](#Appointments) and Nominations | Section 1 | ADDED: Specifies appointed Senators must meet the same qualifications as at-large Senators: full-time students as defined by Texas State University and maintain good academic and disciplinary standing. A Freshman student appointed to the position must have graduated in the top quarter of their high school class. |  |
|  | [Article X](#Appointments)  | [Appointments](#Appointments) and Nominations | Section 2 | ADDED: Specifies the times, location, and manner of selecting an appointed Senator may be prescribed by each organization or Texas State University department thereof; but the Senate may at any time by law make or alter such regulations, except as to the location of selection. |  |
|  | [Article X](#Appointments)  | [Appointments](#Appointments) and Nominations | Section 3 | ADDED: Specifies House Representatives must be selected by each college dean for appointment by March 15 of each year. |  |
|  | [Article X](#Appointments)  | [Appointments](#Appointments) and Nominations | Section 5 | ADDED: Specifies the President nominates Department directors, the Nominations and Appointments Committee reviews to forward approved nominations to the Senate for confirmation. Any member of the student body may apply and must have attended at least one semester as a full-time student as defined by university policy. |  |
|  | [Article X](#Appointments)  | [Appointments](#Appointments) and Nominations | Section 6 | ADDED: Specifies the President appoints the Department assistant directors from among the Assembly membership and respective chamber confirms the appointments. |  |
|  | [Article X](#Appointments)  | [Appointments](#Appointments) and Nominations | Section 7 | ADDED: Specifies the President nominates members of the Judiciary, the Nominations and Appointments Committee reviews to forward approved nominations for confirmation by the Senate, and by the House for graduate student appointments. Any member of the student body may apply and must have attended at least one semester as a full-time student as defined by university policy. Attended at least one semester as a full-time student as defined by university policy. |  |
|  | [Article X](#Appointments)  | [Appointments](#Appointments) and Nominations | Section 9 | ADDED: Specifies the President appoints student representatives to university committees. |  |
|  | [Article XI](#Removal)  | Impeachment and Removal | Section 2 | ADDED: Defines impeachment as a process whereby the House brings formal charges of such acts deemed impeachable against the President, Vice President, members of the Executive, members of the Judiciary. The process evaluates the charges and decides if there is sufficient evidence to conduct a trial in the Senate. |  |
|  | [Article XI](#Removal)  | Impeachment and Removal | Section 5 | ADDED: Specifies the process for the House to approve Articles of Impeachment before a trial in the Senate. |  |
|  | [Article XI](#Removal)  | Impeachment and Removal | Section 7 | ADDED: Specifies reasons for appealing a trial in the Senate. |  |
|  | [Article XI](#Removal)  | Impeachment and Removal | Section 8 | ADDED: Specifies appeals process after a trial in the Senate. |  |
|  | [Article XII](#Removal)  | [Succession](#Removal) | Section 4 | ADDED: Specifies in the event of a vacancy or removal of both the President and the Vice President, the Senate Leader must immediately assume the powers of the presidency. |  |
| 1.
 | [Article XII](#Removal)  | [Succession](#Removal) | Section 4 | ADDED: Specifies if there is no Vice President or Senate Leader at the time of a presidential vacancy, a special election in the Senate will take place to elect a new President, new Vice President, and new Senate Leader from among current Senators no later than the next meeting of the session following vacancy. |  |
|  | [Article XII](#Removal)  | [Succession](#Removal) | Section 7 | ADDED: Specifies in the event of a vacancy or removal of the Chief Justice, the Supreme Court will, as soon as practicable, elect a new Chief from among the sitting Justices. |  |
|  | [Article XII](#Removal)  | [Succession](#Removal) | Section 9 | ADDED: Specifies in the event of a vacancy or removal of an appointed Senator, the president of the student organization or the affiliated Texas State University department will fill the vacancy. |  |