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Senate Bill (S) 52-007: Alterations to Requirements for Candidacy in the Midterm Senatorial Election

University of South Florida. Student Government Senate

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University of South Florida Student Government Senate



SB [S] 52-007

Alterations to Requirements for Candidacy in the Midterm Senatorial Election 52nd Term Summer 2011

The intent of this legislation shall be to modify the requirements for Candidacy in the Midterm Senatorial Election, removing the 50 signature petition requirement from the required documentation.

A SENATE STATUTORY AMENDMENT

Be it enacted by the Senate of the University of South Florida Student Government assembled, that the following changes be made to the Student Government Statutes:

Chapter

703

General Requirements and Regulations for Senate Midterm Elections

703.1 Occurrence of Election and Determination of Vacancies

703.1 The Mid-Term election shall take place the second Tuesday and Wednesday of October. The purpose of a Mid-Term election is to fill vacant Senate seats and propose any Constitutional Amendments.

703.2 The total number of vacant seats shall be determined by the Senate President Pro Tempore in conjunction with the Advisor and made public prior to the onset of the elections.

703.2 Candidacy

703.2.1 Students interested in running for the Senate will be able to pick up an application packet from the Election Rules Commission in the fall semester beginning on the first day of classes.

703.2.2 Candidates will be allowed to apply Monday through Friday, except holidays, beginning the first day of classes. The application shall be due to the Election Rules Commission

no later than the close of business (4:59:59PM) on the Friday of the third week of September.

703.2.3 To apply for candidacy, candidates must submit the following required forms in order to be put on the ballot.

703.2.3.1 The official application packet

703.2.3.2 A Declaration of Intent

703.2.3.3 A Buckley Waiver

703.2.3.4 ~~A petition form with the signatures of students currently enrolled at the University of South Florida~~

703.2.3.4.1 ~~Senatorial candidates shall be required to acquire fifty (50) students currently enrolled in the college that the applicant is applying for.~~

703.2.4 ~~Candidates may only engage in verbal campaigning while collecting signatures for the petition.~~

703.2.5 For Mid-Term elections, Senate Candidates shall be required to attend an official Candidates Meeting. There will be at least two meetings scheduled for Senatorial Candidates before Official Campaigning begins. At these meetings, candidates will be given a Senatorial Candidates Packet.

703.2.6 The week prior to the first week of campaigning shall be reserved for the Student Government Advising and Training Services Bureau to check the eligibility of candidates. When the Student Government Advising and Training Service Bureau has completed this check, they will contact the Election Rules Commission who will certify the candidate to run in the election. If a candidate is found to be ineligible to run for office they will be notified of the reason for their ineligibility.

703.2.7 Candidates shall not appear on the ballot unless all required paperwork has been received by the Election Rules Commission.

703.2.8 Candidates may request changes to documents which they have submitted to the Election Rules Commission by submitting a Change Request form.

703.3 Mid-Term Election Ballot

703.3.1 There shall be no write-in candidates

703.3.2 Senatorial candidates shall not run for more than one Senate seat during the election.

703.3.2.1 Candidates who have declared a major shall run for a Senate seat in the college in which they are majoring.

703.3.2.1.1 Candidates shall run in the college they are currently registered in according to Banner.

703.3.2.2 If a student is registered in more than one college, they must choose which college they will run in.

703.3.2.3 Candidates who have not declared a major shall run in the college of their choice.

703.3.3 No undergraduate candidate may run in a college that is restricted to graduate students.

703.3.4 Candidates may withdraw from the election at any given time without penalty by submitting a Withdrawal form. Candidates who withdraw from the election may not reapply.

703.3.5 The candidate's legal name will be required to put on the ballot. The Election Rules Commission may allow nicknames to be listed along with the legal name on the ballot.

703.3.6 The order of the candidates' names on the ballot shall be determined by a randomized selection process as determined by the voting software.

703.4 Expenditures

703.4.1 Candidates shall submit a completed Campaign Budget Statement to the Election Rules Commission before they will be allowed to officially campaign. This statement shall include all campaign contributions and any campaign expenditures with all receipts attached.

703.4.1.1 All Campaign Budget Statements shall be posted on the Student Government Website.

703.4.2 A Campaign Ticket or Senatorial Candidate shall submit an amended expense form to the Election Rules Commission when making purchases during the weeks of campaigning, detailing the cost and providing the receipt.

703.4.3 Misreported information on the Campaign Budget Statement may result in violations assessed against a candidate.

703.5 Campaigning

703.5.1 Campaigning shall begin two weeks prior to the week of voting for the Midterm Election and will end on the final day of voting.

703.5.2 Students may not actively or passively campaign prior to Official Campaigning.

703.5.2.1 Students may solicit the assistance of campaign staff and organizers

703.5.3 Rights and restrictions on active campaigning for candidates shall be outlined in the Election Rules Commission Rules of Procedure and Title 7.

703.5.4 Any student or non-student may engage in passive and/or active campaigning.

703.5.5 Rights and restrictions on campaign materials shall be outlined in the Election Rules Commission Rules of Procedure.

703.6 Violation Assessment

703.6.1 Mid-term Elections shall follow the violation assessment procedure of the General Elections.

703.7 Run-Off Elections

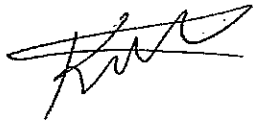
703.7.1 After the results of the Midterm Election have been announced, the Election Rules Commission will inform the candidates as to whether or not a Run-Off Election will need to be held. All the policies and procedures of the Midterm Election shall apply to a Run-Off Election, except those changed by the policies and procedures found below.

703.7.2 Run-Off Elections shall occur the following Tuesday and Wednesday after the official announcement and certification of the election results.

703.7.3 Campaigning will begin immediately following the announcement that a Run-Off Election will occur and end on the final day of voting.

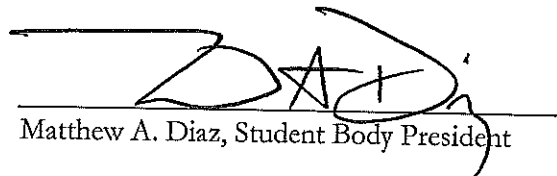
703.7.4 No grievances shall be filed once the Election Rules Commission has certified the Run-Off election results.

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Alterations to Requirements for Candidacy in the Midterm Senatorial Election

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Sponsor: Chairwoman Nakita Kiger
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