



University at Buffalo Student Association Inc.
350 Student Union, Buffalo, NY 14260
www.sa.buffalo.edu

Resolution - 2025-2026 - S#22

Subject: Ensuring Transparency in the Oversight of the Elections and Compliance Chairperson

Requested: Grant Peterson, Senator; Joshua Brodsky, Senator

Whereas, the integrity and transparency of SA elections depends on the independence of the Elections and Compliance Chairperson, who governs all election proceedings under By-Laws Section 5.03(a);

Whereas, the current By-Laws do not establish specific procedures or criteria for the removal of the Elections and Compliance Chairperson during an active election, and clarifying these procedures would promote fairness, accountability, and public confidence in the election process;

Therefore, be it resolved that the SA Senate hereby amends the By-Laws, pursuant to Article IX, Section 9.02, as follows:

Amendment 1: Section 5.02(g)(iii)

The fourth sentence of Section 5.02(g)(iii), which currently reads “Appointees may be removed by joint act of the President and the Treasurer with or without cause,” shall be amended to read:

“Except where otherwise stated in the By-Laws, appointees may be removed by joint act of the President and the Treasurer with or without cause.”

Amendment 2: Section 5.03(a) — New Subsections

The following subsections shall be added to Section 5.03(a):

(viii) The President and Treasurer shall not terminate the Elections and Compliance Chairperson during times of election, as defined in Section 5.03(a)(iii), except as provided in this section, or if due to violation of SA’s Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy.

(ix) During an election, the President and Treasurer may jointly suspend the Elections and Compliance Chairperson only for cause: (a) intentional material violation of SA’s Election Rules or these By-Laws; (b) demonstrated bias toward or against any candidate; (c) failure to perform the duties of the position; or (d) conduct constituting cause under Section 8.02 of these By-Laws. The President or Treasurer shall notify the Senate Chairperson in writing within twenty-four (24) hours of any such suspension, stating the specific grounds therefore.

(x) Any such suspension shall last only until the next Regular or Special Meeting of the SA Senate, at which the Senate shall vote to affirm, reverse, or modify the suspension. If the Senate meets but takes no action on the suspension, the suspension shall be deemed affirmed. If no Senate meeting is held within fourteen (14) calendar days, the suspension shall automatically expire.

(xi) Only the SA Senate may permanently remove the Elections and Compliance Chairperson during an election, except if due to violation of SA's Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy. The Elections and Compliance Chairperson shall receive advance written notice of proposed removal, including specific grounds, at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the relevant Senate meeting, and shall have the opportunity to address the Senate before any vote.

Be it further resolved that all other provisions of the By-Laws not expressly amended herein shall remain in full force and effect;

Be it further resolved that this amendment shall take effect immediately upon passage by the SA Senate.