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Fall 2005

F05RS SGB No. 2 (Election Code)

S. Moore

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Recommended Citation

Moore, S. (2005). F05RS SGB No. 2 (Election Code). Retrieved from https://repository.lsu.edu/sg_sslegislation/970

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STUDENT SENATE

F05RS

SGB No. 2

BY: SENATOR S. MOORE

A BILL

**TO AMEND SEVERAL PORTIONS OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTION CODE
CONCERNING EXPENDITURES**

PARAGRAPH 1: WHEREAS, THE ELECTION CODE REVISION COMMITTEE WAS CREATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECOMMENDING CHANGES IN THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTION CODE, AND

PARAGRAPH 2: WHEREAS, THE ELECTION CODE REVISION COMMITTEE HAS MET DILIGENTLY THROUGHOUT THIS SUMMER IN AN EFFORT TO ADDRESS CERTAIN MATTERS THAT HAVE ARISEN IN THE PAST ELECTIONS, AND

PARAGRAPH 3: WHEREAS, THE ELECTION CODE REVISION COMMITTEE HAS RECOMMENDED CHANGES IN THE MATTERS OF CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURES AND THEIR LIMITATIONS.

PARAGRAPH 4: THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AND AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE DOES HEREBY AMEND THESE SECTIONS OF ARTICLE FIVE (V) OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTION CODE REGARDING CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURES AND THEIR LIMITATIONS PRACTICES TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Article V: Campaign Spending Limits

Section 1. Spending limits; General election ticket candidates

A. ~~One thousand dollars (\$1000) shall be the combined expenditure limit of any President/Vice President team-up.~~

B. ~~Five hundred dollars (\$500) shall be the expenditure limit of any candidate running for an At-Large position.~~

C. ~~Three hundred dollars (\$300) shall be the expenditure limit for any candidate running for a non-At-Large position.~~

A. **Four thousand dollars (\$4,000) shall be the combined expenditure limit of any President/Vice President team-up.**

B. **Three hundred dollars (\$300) shall be the expenditure limit of any candidate running for an At-Large position.**

- C. **One hundred dollars (\$100) shall be the expenditure limit for any candidate running for a non-At-Large position.**
- D. Expenditure limits for tickets shall be based on the total expenditures of individuals involved with a particular ticket **or \$13,500, whichever amount is lower.**
Contributions by cross-listed candidates to the tickets with which they are affiliated may not exceed expenditure cap set for the individual office that they are seeking.

Section 2 Spending limits; Independent candidates

- A. **Four thousand dollars (\$4,000) shall be the combined expenditure limit of any President/Vice President team-up.**
- B. **One thousand dollars (\$1,000) shall be the expenditure limit of any candidate running for an At-Large position.**
- C. **Three hundred dollars (\$300) shall be the expenditure limit for any candidate running for a non-At-Large position.**

Section 3. Spending limits; Run-off Election

The expenditure limit for the Run-off Election of any candidate or ticket shall be one-half of the limits stated for the General Election.

Section 4. Expenditures; scope

A candidate's total expenditures shall include all goods and services purchased by or donated to a candidate or any supporter for use in the election or use in any way furthering that candidate's campaign or detracting from the campaign of any or all of that candidate's opponents.

Section 5. Expenditures; valuation

All goods and services shall be valued at the fair market value of that good or service. Barring a reasonable doubt, the Board will recognize the retail value paid for a good or service at its fair market value. The Board reserves the right to revalue a good or service in response to a complaint that the good or serve is not reported at its fair market value. The Election Board must submit three (3) price references from East Baton Rouge Parish merchants in estimating the value of any contest price.

Section 6. **Initial Expense Report**

All candidates and/or campaigns are required to submit an initial expenditure report and receipts on a form provided by the Election Board at the time of filing. This report must include all spending to-date, including possible in-kind contributions. This report shall be submitted at 4:30 p.m. on a date set by the Election Board fifteen (15) to twenty (20) class days after the date of filing.

Section 7. Final Expenditure report; General Election

All candidates **and campaigns** are required to submit a **final** expenditure reports and receipts on forms provided by the Board at the time of filing. **This report must include all spending incurred during the campaign.** These reports shall be public record ~~after the election~~ **after a 72-hour review period.** Candidates shall sign their reports and certify that they are accurate and complete under penalty of disqualification. The final expenditure report is due by 8:00 a.m. the day after the General Election.

Section 8. Expenditure reports; Run-off Election

Expenditure reports for the run-offs are to be received by 8:00 a.m. the day after a Run-off Election and are to be applicable to Section one (1) of this article.

Section 9. Expenditures; unopposed candidates

Candidates who are unopposed **after the posting of the list of qualified candidates** are considered elected and therefore are not allowed to spend any money campaigning ~~after the posting of the official ballot~~. These candidates are still required to file expenditure reports.

Section 10. Expenditures; application to single candidate **or ticket** only

- A. Money expended and reported for a candidate is applicable only for the campaign of that candidate. Money expended and reported for a President/Vice President team up are applicable only for the campaign of that team-up.
- B. **Registered tickets shall be exempt from Subsection A of this Section. Candidates on a ticket must file a single ticket expenditure report.**

Section 11. Expenditures; in-kind contributions

An in-kind contribution shall be regarded as anything contributed to a candidate or ticket other than money, excluding campaign volunteers. In-kind contributions for the use of campaign fundraising or printing of campaign paraphernalia must be reported and will count toward the maximum expenditure a candidate or ticket may spend. Receipts must be submitted with expenditure reports and are subject to the same rules outlined in section 4 of this article.

PARAGRAPH 5: THIS BILL SHALL TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE BY A TWO-THIRDS (2/3) VOTE OF THE LSU STUDENT SENATE AND SIGNATURE BY THE PRESIDENT, UPON LAPSE OF TIME FOR PRESIDENTIAL ACTION, OR IF VETOED BY THE PRESIDENT AND SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY THE SENATE, ON THE DATE OF SUCH APPROVAL.

APPROVED:

BO STAPLES, SPEAKER

DATE

MICHELLE GIEG, PRESIDENT

DATE