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## **F05RS SGB No. 3 (Election Code Petitions)**

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**STUDENT SENATE**

**F05RS**

**SGB No. 3**

**BY: SENATOR S. MOORE**

**A BILL**

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

**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 PETITIONS.

**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 TEN (X) OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ELECTION CODE REGARDING PETITIONS TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Article X: Petition

Section 1. Petition; definition; procedural steps

A petition is the device whereby a constitutional amendment, a matter affecting a self-assessed student fee, or a recall of an elected officer is placed on the ballot as provided by the Student Government Constitution. The procedural steps to be followed are:

- A. Registration of the petition with the Election Board or the Office of the Dean of Students;
- B. Collection of signatures by the proponents; and,
- C. Submission of the signatures to the Student Body President, ~~recipient, or~~ **and the proposed recipient of the self-assessed student fee or the entity considered a candidate under Article X, Section 8.**

Section 2. Petition; registration

Prior to a petition being circulated for collection of signatures, it must be registered with the Election Board. Registration is accomplished by filing a copy of the petition with the Election Board in the Student Government office. If the Election Board obtains a proposed amendment to the Student Government Constitution under the guidelines of Article X of the Student Government Constitution a full copy of the text of the amendment must be filed at this time also. If the

Election Board is unable or unwilling to accept the registration of the petition, it may be registered with the Office of the Dean of Students instead.

Section 3. Petition; submission; time limit

A petition must be submitted to the Student Body President within **twenty-eight (28)** calendar days of its registration. The President shall immediately transmit any petition received to the Election Board.

- A. **In a petition to levy, amend, repeal, or otherwise regulate a self-assessed student fee, the twenty-eight (28) consecutive calendar days prior to the beginning of campaigning of any Fall or Spring General Election shall be the only days designated for petitioners in this category to collect signatures. During these twenty-eight (28) consecutive calendar days, the petitioners may campaign for signatures only.**
- B. ~~In a recall petition or in a petition seeking to amend the Constitution, petitioners shall have fifteen (15) consecutive calendar days to collect signatures at any point during the Fall or Spring semesters. During these fifteen (15) consecutive calendar days, the petitioners may campaign for signatures only.~~

Section 4. Petition; verification of signatures

The Election Board shall verify the sufficiency of the petition within seven (7) calendar days of submission. The Election Board shall verify as valid only those signatures which:

- A. Contain the name of the student with the date of the signature in the handwriting of the signer **and the student's PAWS login ID;**
- B. Are Student Body members as defined by the Constitution as of the date of submission;
- C. For a matter affecting a student assessed fee, are members of the group assessed or to be assessed; and,
- D. Were actually collected after registration of the petition and before the submission deadline.

Section 5. Election Dates

**The board shall set a tentative election date within three (3) days of submission, except when the petition calls for a constitutional amendment, when the President shall set a tentative date. If the petition is verified as sufficient, a final election date shall be set within one (1) day of verification. If no final date is set, the tentative election date shall be the final election date.**

Section 6. Polling times and places; ballot question

**Within one (1) day of the final election date being determined, the Board shall announce the polling times for the election and announce the official ballot, which shall contain a clear, short, accurate question with a posing, favoring the petition. Polling places shall be the same as those used for the Fall and Spring elections.**

Section 7. Election Code applies to petition campaign

Except as expressly provided in this Article, all other provisions of this Code apply to the petition campaign.

Section 8. Certain persons considered as candidates

The following persons shall be considered as candidates and have full responsibilities as such:

- A. The person who registers the petition;
- B. In a recall petition, the person who is target of the recall;
- C. In a petition seeking to amend the Constitution, the Student Body President;

- D. In a petition to levy, amend, repeal, or otherwise regulate a self-assessed student fee, the recipient or proposed recipient; or,
- E. In a referendum, the group or entity receiving funds from the proposed referendum shall be recognized as candidates

**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.