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Senate Bill SB-12S-2566 Title VI Revisions, The Elections Salvation and Resurrection Act of Spring 2012

Student Government Association
University of North Florida

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SENATE LEGISLATION

SB-12S-2566

SB-12S-2566 : The Elections Salvation and Resurrection Act of Spring 2012

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14 Whereas: The Student Government of the University of North Florida was established to represent
15 student concerns in all University wide matters; and
- 16 Whereas: The Student Senate is the legislative body of the University of North Florida's Student
17 Government given the responsibility of carrying out such legislative acts that are necessary
18 and proper for the Student Body of the University of North Florida; and
- 19 Whereas: Legislation dealing with necessary and proper statutory revisions shall be considered by
20 Student Senate; and
- 21 Whereas: Title VI is in desperate need of revision BEFORE the Spring 2012 Elections.
- 22 Therefore; the following revisions are being made to Title VI;

TITLE VI: THE ELECTION CODE

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2 Chapter 600: Introduction and Guidelines

3
4 600.1 Introduction

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6 A. In accordance with Florida Statutes (Title XLVIII Chapter 1004.26), "Each
7 student government shall be organized and maintained by students and
8 shall be composed of at least a president, a student legislative body, and a
9 student judiciary. The president and the student legislative body shall be
10 elected by the student body; however, interim vacancies and the student
11 judiciary may be filled in a manner other than election as prescribed by the
12 internal procedures of the student government." Therefore, the University
13 of North Florida Student Government will hold General, Special, and/or
14 Inter-Collegiate Elections occurring during the Fall and Spring Semesters
15 to elect a President, Vice-President, and Student Senators.
- 16
17 B. The standing committee of the University of North Florida (UNF) Senate
18 assigned the responsibility for oversight, review, and periodic update of the
19 policies expressed in the Election Code shall be known as the Elections &
20 Appointments Committee (E&A).
- 21
22 C. The ad-hoc committee of the UNF Senate assigned certain electoral
23 responsibilities ~~the responsibility for oversight, review and enforcement of~~
24 ~~the Election Code~~ during an election cycle shall be known as the Elections
25 Commission (EC). Such responsibilities shall be prescribed in Chapter 605.
- 26
27 D. Amendments to the Election Code are subject to Article 2, Section 10A
28 and require two-thirds (2/3) approval from Senate.
- 29
30 E. For Senatorial and Executive Elective Offices and Apportionment refer to
31 Article V of the Constitution.

32
33 ~~600.2 Senatorial Elective Offices~~

- 34 ~~A. Seats one (1) through twenty (20) and Seat forty one (41) shall be~~
35 ~~open for election during the Fall General Election.~~
- 36
37 ~~B. Seats twenty one (21) through forty (40) and Seat forty-two (42) shall~~
38 ~~be open for election during the Spring General Election.~~
- 39
40 ~~C. With the exception of seat forty one (41) and forty-two (42);~~
41 ~~Senatorial Seats offered during a General Election shall be at-large,~~
42 ~~with vacant seats being occupied by the candidates receiving the most~~
43 ~~votes, except for those left vacant by disqualification, which shall be~~
44 ~~left vacant until appeals have been resolved. If a candidate is~~
45 ~~disqualified with finality (e.g. Candidate did not seek appeal or appeal~~
46 ~~upheld disqualification), the seat shall be filled by the next candidate~~
47 ~~receiving the most votes.~~

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D. ~~Seat forty one (41) and forty two (42) shall be occupied by the candidate receiving the most votes who also fulfills the requirements outlined in Section 4B of Article II. This seat shall take priority over the remaining at large seats in that it, if possible, shall be allotted to the qualified candidate with the most votes prior to the allotment of At large Seats. Reference Title VI, Section 601.1E for further explanation.~~

E. ~~Seats forty one (41), forty three (43), forty five (45), forty seven (47); forty nine (49), and fifty one (51) shall be open for election during the Fall Inter-College Election and shall be subject to the restrictions enumerated in Section 4B of Article II and Section 1 of Article V.~~

F. ~~Seats forty two (42), forty four (44), and forty six (46), forty eight (48), fifty (50), and fifty two (52) shall be open for election during the Spring Inter-College Election and shall be subject to the restrictions enumerated in Section 4B of Article II and Section 1 of Article V.~~

G. ~~The Student Body may, upon written petition presented to the Chief Justice bearing the names and signatures of at least ten percent (10%) of the student body, call a Special Election as outlined in Article V, Section 4, O. of the Constitution.~~

~~600.3 Executive Elective Offices~~

A. ~~The Presidential/Vice Presidential Election shall be held during the Spring General Election.~~

B. ~~All Presidential/Vice Presidential candidates are required to run on a two person ticket as outlined in Article V, Section 2, A of the Constitution.~~

C. ~~A vote for a Presidential/Vice Presidential ticket will count equally for each candidate on that ticket.~~

Chapter 601: Definitions

The following words and phrases, when used in this title, shall be defined as the following:

A. **Billboard Campaigning-** Placement of constructed materials (i.e.: road signs, plywood billboards, posters, etc.), advertising or calling for support of a specific candidate(s) or party for an elective office of Student Government.

B. **Campaigning-** All publicizing and/or distribution of campaign materials (i.e.: flyers, handbills, food, etc.) on campus which solicits or calls for

support of a candidate(s) or party for an elective office of Student Government during the campaign period.

1. Active Campaigning- Campaigning in which the person engages individuals in an unsolicited manner on campus. One example is a candidate passing out flyers or other promotional materials to a constituent.
2. Passive Campaigning- Campaigning in which individuals call for support of a candidate without soliciting others in an active or verbal manner.
3. Verbal Campaigning- campaigning with sign language and/or speech (including internet).

C. Campaign Expense- the full cost of all materials used to support or promote a party's or individual's Student Government election campaign. of any goods or services paid for by the campaign.

D. Campaign Guidelines Document- A university document derived separately from the Election Code, and designed to inform candidates of University and University-related regulations relevant to campaigning.

E. Campaign Materials- all written or printed materials and items that are distributed in a manner which advertises or calls for support of a specific candidate(s) for elective office.

F. Candidate- Any student who has properly submitted all of the necessary paperwork and has met the eligibility requirements for seeking an elective office of Student Government (i.e.: Senator, President, etc.).

G. ~~Certificate of Election — A document certifying a candidate's proper election.~~

H. Day- as referred within the Election Code or mentioned as business day, shall be defined as being weekdays (Monday through Friday), 8am-5pm, during academic sessions. Academic Sessions include Spring, Summer and Fall semesters only. Spring Break and University holidays shall not be considered as business days.

I. Election Cycle- The Election Cycle will begin on the first day that a candidate application is properly submitted to the Election's Supervisor and will end after all Election related disputes have been resolved.

J. Full Cost- The total dollar amount spent toward the purchase of a good or service.

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- K. Incumbents- Individuals who currently hold an office in Student Government. Appointees are considered incumbents.
 - L. ~~General Election -- Elections held once (1) during both fall and spring semester for the purpose of determining which candidates will assume all Student Government Elective Offices, with the exception of Senatorial apportioned seats forty three (43) through fifty two (52).~~
 - M. ~~Inter-College Election -- Elections held during the Fall and Spring semesters for the purposes of determining which candidate will assume Senatorial apportioned seats forty three (43) through fifty two (52).~~
 - N. Party- A political group comprised of two (2) or more election candidates; organized to promote and support common goals and/or candidates for public office through the use of shared campaign materials and/or monetary resources.
 - O. Polling Region- A seventy-five foot (75') radius surrounding the polling station.
 - P. ~~Polling Station -- Area containing polls and/or ballot boxes.~~
 - Q. Exit Polling- A sample poll taken by any A&S Fee paying student, immediately following the casting of the votes.
 - R. Exit Polling Barrier- A twenty foot (20') radius surrounding the polling station.
 - S. Referendum- A senatorially approved question or legislative act which is placed on the official ballot during an election for majority vote by the electorate. The decision of the majority of votes that are cast is not a final decision but will stand as a strong suggestion to Student Government, with the exception of a Constitutional Referendum, which is binding upon validation of the election.
 - T. ~~Special Election -- Any election other than a General Election or an Inter-College Election.~~
 - U. Statute of Limitations- A statutorily prescribed time limit in which any election complaint may be filed.
 - V. Ticket- Two (2) candidates cooperatively engaged in a campaign for President and Vice-President.
 - W. Total Campaign Cost- The sum of all campaign expenditures as reported by a candidate, ticket, or party.

- 2 X. ~~Unbiased to negate an unknown or publicly known inclination or~~
3 ~~prejudice.~~
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5 Y. Validation- Action taken by the Senate that formally acknowledges and
6 ensures the accuracy of the vote totals as presented by the Elections
7 Supervisor.
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9 **Chapter 603: Elections and Appointments Committee**

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11 603.1 The E&A Committee is one of four standing committees of the Student
12 Government Senate. The E&A Committee is responsible for overseeing and
13 enforcing the Election Code outside the election cycle, planning and
14 organizing all elections, and evaluating appointments to the Senate.
15

16 603.2 The Elections and Appointment Committee shall set all dates and deadlines;
17 create a calendar and organize a debate or forum for all Elections.
18

19 603.3 The Elections and Appointment Committee shall schedule the Fall and
20 Spring General and Inter-College Elections between six (6) to twelve (12)
21 weeks into the semester, excluding spring break. General and Inter-College
22 Elections must occur at the same time.
23

24 603.4 The Elections and Appointment Committee may forward appointees to the
25 Senate by two-thirds (2/3) vote.
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27 **Chapter 605: Elections Commission**

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29 605.1 The Elections Commission shall be the central body responsible for the
30 management of the elections for the duration of the election cycle. Its
31 primary objectives are twofold, to ensure that the polls are properly run and
32 that all witnessed violations are filed.
33

34 605.2 The Elections Commission shall be composed of the following people:
35

- 36 1. The Student Government Elections Supervisor who shall serve as the
37 chair of the Elections Commission and vote only in case of tie.
38
39 2. Senators not running in the election are considered members of the
40 Elections Commission at the time the Declaration of Intent is due and
41 shall have one (1) vote in all decisions made by the Commission.
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43 3. The Attorney General shall be a non-voting ex-officio member of the
44 Elections Commission.
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46 4. The Student Advocate shall be a non-voting ex-officio member of the
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5. The Student Government Advisor shall be a non-voting ex-officio member of the Elections Commission.

605.3 The members of Elections Commission shall assume the following responsibilities and duties:

- A. Meet at least once prior to the election.
- B. Senators who miss an Elections Commission meeting will result in the assessment of one (1) absentee point per meeting missed.
- C. Work at the polls for a total of two (2) hours per Election Day.
- D. Failure to work the polls will result in the assessment of three (3) absentee points per day.
- E. Enforce all rules and procedures outlined herein and all other rules/laws applicable to the candidates by filing violations to the Attorney General.
- F. Adhere to the following polling station procedures:
 - 1. Keep the polling station clear of campaign materials at all times during elections.
 - 2. Ensure voter privacy through all reasonable measures.
 - 3. ~~Check Osprey1Cards before allowing students to vote~~
 - 4. Disallow exit polling within twenty feet (20') of the polling station or any campaigning within the polling region.
- G. Seek an opinion of the Student Government Elections Code from the Attorney General when the need arises.
- H. Meet to invalidate the election, if necessary. Violations against candidates shall not be considered a sufficient reason to invalidate the election.
- I. At the conclusion of the election, the Elections Commission shall draft and approve, by majority vote, a bill validating the election. Following passage, the bill shall be placed on second read and is subject to the normal legislative process.

605.4 Duties of the Student Government Advisor

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- A. The Advisor shall be unbiased and aware of all policies and procedures surrounding the election. He/she shall be a non-voting ex-officio member of the Elections Commission.
 - B. The Advisor shall assist the Election Supervisor in investigating the qualifications of all candidates.
 - C. In the event of an election code violation, the Advisor is to be made aware of the violation by the Attorney General.

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10 **Chapter 604: Elections Supervisor**

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12 604.1 The Chairperson of the Elections & Appointments Committee will serve as
13 the Elections Supervisor and shall assume the following powers, duties, and
14 responsibilities once the Election Cycle has commenced:

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- A. Shall serve as the Chair of the Elections Commission and set the agenda for meetings, as well as ensure that accurate minutes are taken at each meeting.
 - B. Seek an opinion of the Student Government Elections Code from the Attorney General when the need arises.
 - C. Compile and revise the Campaign Guidelines Document pending approval of the E&A Committee.
 - D. The Elections Supervisor, with the assistance of the Student Government Advisor, shall investigate the qualifications of all candidates and may reject candidates that do not satisfy requirements specified within the Election Code.
 - E. Disqualify candidates who fail to submit all forms correctly by set deadlines.
 - F. Disqualify candidates who make false statements about their qualifications for office.
 - G. Notify unqualified candidates in writing. Any disqualified candidate(s) may appeal to the Elections Primary Court.
 - H. Publish adequate information concerning elections in a format readily accessible to any member of the student body. This shall be done throughout the election cycle.
 - I. Adequately publicize and conduct at least one (1) public debate or forum.

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a. The Elections Supervisor has the authority to approve or deny debates or forums sponsored by an A&S-funded entity.

J. Create a visual display at each polling station which contains candidate pictures and platform statements. All portraits must be generally the same size and the display shall be formatted in a similar way as the official ballot.

K. Mark off the polling region and exit polling barrier with tape or other tangible items.

L. Shall ensure that all absentee ballots submitted and awaiting tabulation are secure from damage, loss, theft, or alteration.

M. Invalidate absentee ballots cast by members of the electorate that are contrary to the Student Government Statutes Election Code, pending approval of the Elections Commission.

N. Must file any and all elections complaints that occur after the close of elections. (Example: Financial complaints and Campaign materials)

O. Maintain the final results of all elections as permanent public record.

P. Issue Certificates of Election to elected candidates. These certificates must be signed by the President and the Elections Supervisor.

Chapter 602: ~~Types of Elections~~

602.1 ~~General Elections~~

A. ~~Fall and Spring General Elections shall take place six (6) to twelve (12) weeks into the Semester, excluding spring break.~~

B. ~~Any student will be allowed to collect published candidate information (i.e.: Candidate Application and Student Endorsement) from Student Government. Public Requests can be made at any time after the Application deadline.~~

C. ~~The Elections and Appointment Committee shall set all dates and deadlines for the fall and spring Elections.~~

D. ~~Billboard and Active Campaigning may commence ten (10) business days before the first day of elections; verbal and passive campaigning, can commence at any time.~~

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E. ~~The graduate student receiving the most votes in the Spring General Election shall receive seat forty two (42). The graduate student receiving the most votes in the Fall General Election shall receive seat forty one (41). This will not affect other graduate students running in that election. If no graduate students become candidates in the election, the seat will remain open for appointment according to the Student Government Constitution.~~

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F. ~~Unopposed candidates shall be deemed to have voted for him or herself and declared the winner by acclamation. No election for the respective seat shall be held.~~

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601.2 ~~Inter College Elections~~

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A. ~~Inter College elections shall take place at the same time and location as a Fall or Spring General Election.~~

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B. ~~In the Fall, seat forty three (43) will be elected from the College of Arts and Sciences; seat forty five (45) from the College of Computing, Engineering, and Construction; seat forty seven (47) from the Brooks College of Health; seat forty nine (49) from the Coggin College of Business; and seat fifty one (51) from the College of Education and Human Services.~~

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C. ~~In the Spring, seat forty four (44) will be elected from the College of Arts and Sciences; seat forty six (46) from the College of Computing, Engineering, and Construction; seat forty eight (48) from the Brooks College of Health; seat fifty (50) from the Coggin College of Business; and seat fifty two (52) from the College of Education and Human Services.~~

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D. ~~Senate candidates may run for their respective college seat as long as the candidate has been accepted into the said college. If a candidate has two or more majors, the candidate may only run for one college seat.~~

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E. ~~Students with a declared major shall vote in that specified Inter-College Election. These students are still eligible to vote in General and Special Elections.~~

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F. ~~Inter-College Elections shall be conducted in the same manner and under the same rules and regulations as regular elections.~~

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G. ~~Unopposed candidates shall be deemed to have voted for him or herself and declared the winner by acclamation. No election for the respective seat shall be held.~~

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601.3—Special Elections

The Elections Supervisor, at the request of the President, the majority of the Senate, or by petition of the Student Body, shall call for and supervise a Special Election not otherwise covered in the Student Government Constitution or the Student Government Election Code. Special Elections shall be conducted in the same manner and under the same rules and regulations as regular elections.

Chapter 603:—Responsibilities within Student Government

602.1 Duties of the Elections Supervisor

The Chairperson of the Elections & Appointments Committee will serve as the Elections Supervisor and shall assume the following powers, duties, and responsibilities once the Election Cycle has commenced:

Q. Appoint a collection of nonpartisan poll workers from within Senate and train these poll workers in their responsibilities and duties in the operation of the polls:

R. Inform the Attorney General, the Student Government Advisor, or designated replacement in accordance with this Title, of all alleged violations of the Election Code:

S. Shall serve as the Chair of the Elections Commission.

T. May seek an opinion of the Student Government Elections Code from the Attorney General.

U. Compile/Revise the Campaign Guidelines Document.

1. — The Campaign Guidelines Document is derived separately from the Election Code, and is designed to inform candidates of University and University-related regulations relevant to campaigning.

2. — This standard document shall be revised only if there are changes to University regulations.

3. — Candidates who violate the Campaign Guidelines Document are subject to potential penalties assessed by the Judicial Branch.

4. — Omissions, additions, revisions, and any other changes to the Campaign Guidelines Document must be approved by the Elections and Appointments Committee. —

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- F. ~~Invalidate ballots cast by members of the electorate that are contrary to the Student Government Statutes Election Code, pending approval of the Elections Commission.~~
 - G. ~~Publish adequate information concerning elections in the official campus newspaper and, at least ten (10) business days prior to the elections, publicize its date, time, location of voting booths, candidates and appropriate procedures for voting. After the election, the Elections Supervisor will publish results in the official campus newspaper.~~
 - H. ~~Adequately publicize and conduct at least one (1) public debate or forum during the period of active campaigning where all candidates are invited to present their platforms. It should be held in an area centrally located and accessible to students.~~
 - I. ~~Shall ensure that all absentee ballots submitted and awaiting tabulation are secure from damage, loss, theft, or alteration.~~
 - J. ~~Issue Certificates of Election to each officer elected in accordance with this Title, which must be signed by the President and the Elections Supervisor.~~
 - K. ~~Maintain the final results of all elections as permanent public record.~~
 - L. ~~Mark off the polling region and exit polling barrier with tape or other tangible items two (2) business days before the first day of the election.~~
 - M. ~~Create a Candidate portrait board picturing all candidates wishing to appear. It is to be displayed at each polling station while they are open. These Portraits shall be categorized by office and placed in alphabetical order. All Portraits should be generally the same size. Each Portrait must be accompanied by the Candidate's name and may also include a paragraph of fifty (50) words or less written by the candidate and approved by the Elections Supervisor.~~

602.2 Duties of the Chair Person of the Elections Commission

The Chairperson of the Elections & Appointments Committee will serve as the Chairperson of the Elections Commission and shall assume the following powers, duties, and responsibilities once the Election Cycle has commenced:

- A. ~~Form and preside over the Elections Commission, assuming an unbiased role in all cases.~~

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B. ~~Call and set the agenda for meetings of the Elections Commission, as well as ensure that accurate minutes are taken at each meeting;~~

C. ~~May seek interpretation of the Student Government Elections Code from the Attorney General. In the event of a conflict of interpretation, the interpretation of the Attorney General will supersede.~~

D. ~~Vote only in the case of a tie among the Commission.~~

E. ~~The Chair of the Election Commission shall notify the Attorney General of any campaign violations.~~

602.3 Duties of the Elections Commission (EC)

A. ~~The Elections Commission shall be composed of the following people:~~

1. ~~The Student Government Elections Supervisor shall serve as the chair of the Elections Commission.~~

2. ~~All Senators not running in an election must actively participate with the commission and work the polls.~~

a. ~~Each member shall have one (1) vote in all decisions made by the Commission.~~

b. ~~Senators are considered members of the Elections Commission twelve (12) business days prior to the first day of elections.~~

c. ~~Each member shall work at the polls for a total of two (2) hours per Election Day or be assessed three (3) absentee points per day.~~

3. ~~The Attorney General shall serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the Elections Commission prior to election violation hearings.~~

4. ~~The Student Government Advisor shall be unbiased and aware of all policies and procedures surrounding the election. He/she shall be a non-voting ex-officio member of the Elections Commission.~~

5. ~~The Elections Supervisor shall serve as the Chair of the Elections Commission.~~

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6. ~~The Elections Commission shall meet to discuss the policies for polling stations on election days.~~

7. ~~The Elections Commission shall meet to invalidate the election, if necessary.~~

B. ~~Members are responsible for enforcing all rules and procedures outlined herein and all other rules/laws applicable to the candidates. The procedure for enforcing the Election Code shall be the following:~~

1. ~~Alleged violations of the Election Code must be reported to the Attorney General who will then forward the complaint to the Chief Justice.~~

C. ~~All members of this committee shall oversee the General and Inter-College Elections. They may meet in regard to other Special Elections as well.~~

D. ~~The Elections Commission must meet at least once during the two (2) weeks prior to the election.~~

E. ~~May seek interpretation of the Student Government Elections Code from the Attorney General. In the event of a conflict of interpretation, the interpretation of the Attorney General will supersede.~~

F. ~~At the conclusion of the election, the Elections Commission shall draft and approve, by majority vote, a bill validating the election notwithstanding an extenuating circumstance. Following passage, the bill shall be placed on second read and is subject to the normal legislative process.~~

602.4 Duties of the Student Government Advisor

D. ~~The Advisor shall be unbiased and aware of all policies and procedures surrounding the election. He/she shall be a non-voting ex-officio member of the Elections Commission.~~

E. ~~The Advisor shall assist the Election Supervisor in investigating the qualifications of all candidates.~~

F. ~~In the event of an election code violation, the Advisor is to be made aware of the violation by the Attorney General.~~

Chapter 606: Candidacy

605.1606.1 Qualifying for Candidacy

2 To qualify as a candidate for Student Government elective office, one must:
3 be an A&S fee paying student, enrolled in at least one (1) class during both
4 the fall and spring semester, and maintain a 2.25 GPA or higher unless one
5 has attended the University of North Florida for less than one (1) semester.
6

7 606.2 Candidacy may be withdrawn up to the time the ballot may no longer be
8 changed by presenting a written and signed statement of withdrawal to the
9 Elections Supervisor.
10

11 A. ~~Be an A&S fee paying student, enrolled in at least one (1) class at the~~
12 ~~University of North Florida.~~

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14 B. ~~Have at least a 2.25 grade point average, unless one has attended the~~
15 ~~University of North Florida for less than one (1) semester.~~

16
17 C. ~~Attend one (1) full Senate and at least two (2) Committee meetings in~~
18 ~~the academic semester in which the student will run for office. An~~
19 ~~attendance form shall be provided in the Candidate Packet to be~~
20 ~~signed by the candidate and cosigned by the Senate President and~~
21 ~~Committee Chair.~~

22
23 ~~*NOTE: In the event of an extenuating circumstance the candidate~~
24 ~~may be excused from attending one or both attendance requirements~~
25 ~~through a written appeal to the Judicial Council.~~

26
27 D. ~~Attend a mandatory Candidate Seminar which shall be held on at~~
28 ~~least three (3) separate dates prescribed by the Elections Supervisor~~
29 ~~to discuss the Election Code and obtain all necessary election~~
30 ~~documents; including but not limited to the Candidate Seminar~~
31 ~~Document, University Guidelines Document, and the Election~~
32 ~~Signage Policy. All information discussed in seminars shall be~~
33 ~~previously approved by the E&A committee. All additional questions~~
34 ~~answered will be shared via public notice and email.~~

35
36 ~~*NOTE: In the event of an extenuating circumstance the candidate~~
37 ~~may request a meeting with the Elections Supervisor, prior to the~~
38 ~~close of the last Candidate seminar, in replacement of the Candidate~~
39 ~~Seminar by obtaining the signatures of the E&A committee Chair~~
40 ~~and Vice-Chair.~~

41
42 E. ~~Presidential Tickets must meet individually with the Election~~
43 ~~Supervisor to discuss the Candidate Seminar Document and the~~
44 ~~Election Code before candidate application deadline. Candidates~~
45 ~~must obtain a signature from the Election Supervisor documenting~~
46 ~~the meeting. This is an opportunity to obtain clarification on all~~
47 ~~election regulations, dates and procedures.~~

2. F. ~~*NOTE: In the event of an extenuating circumstance the candidate
3. may request a meeting with the E&A Committee prior to the
4. Application Deadline. If the E&A Committee finds by a majority
5. vote that an extenuating circumstance is present, the candidate may
6. be granted an extension.~~

7.
8. G. ~~Elected candidates shall not be required to attend a candidate
9. seminar; however, they are responsible to obtain all information from
10. the Election Supervisor.~~

11.
12. 605.2606.3 Becoming a Candidate

13.
14. To become a candidate for Student Government elective office, ~~whose name
15. appears on the Official Ballot,~~ one must submit a completed Candidate
16. Application. Each form referenced hereafter is considered part of the
17. Candidate Application which can be obtained through the Student
18. Government office or the Student Government website. no later than fifteen
19. (15) business days before the start of the election by 5:00 PM. All Candidate
20. Applications must be officially time-stamped by the machine located in the
21. Student Government Rotunda on the day of submission. Candidate
22. Applications without the official time stamp, or that are missing any of the
23. following documents will not be accepted.

24.
25. A. Components of Candidate Application A completed application shall
26. consist of the following forms with their deadline being found on the
27. elections timeline:

28.
29. 1. Declaration of Intent Form, shall be signed and turned into
30. the Elections Supervisor by 5:00 pm twenty (20) business
31. days before the start of the election. The form shall be signed
32. by the candidate ensuring (s)he has read and understood the
33. guidelines and consequences expressed within the Election
34. Code, and pledges to adhere to the guidelines set forth in the
35. Student Government Constitution, Statutes, Election Code,
36. and all other applicable university policies.

37. a) Must contain the candidate's name as reflected by
38. his/her Osprey1Card.

39. b) The Declaration of Intent must also have the name by
40. which a candidate wishes to appear on the ballot.

41. a. Common alternate names are also acceptable
42. (example: a candidate named "Robert" could
43. request to be referred to as "Rob," "Bob,"
44. "Bobby," etc. on the official ballot).

45.
46. 2. Party Affiliation Form
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a. Note: any candidate desiring to run with a party must obtain the signature and N-Number of the current party chair. Party Affiliation Forms not meeting this requirement shall be considered invalid.

3. Student Government Authorization and Release Form
~~A document all candidates must complete for authorization of GPA verification and a release providing their directory information as defined by FERPA.~~

4. Candidate Information Form
~~A document containing a candidate's contact information (i.e.: phone number, email address, student N-number, etc.) and academic status (classification, major).~~

5. Student Endorsement

a. Those seeking Senatorial seats must submit at least one hundred fifty (150) signatures.

b. Those seeking College Seats must ~~obtain~~ submit at least one hundred fifty (150) signatures, with at least fifty (50) being of students from their respective college.

c. ~~Elected or appointed senatorial candidates, who are running as incumbents for an At-Large Seat or for the same college seat, are not required to receive student endorsement. Incumbents are exempt from the student endorsement requirement.~~

d. ~~Elected or appointed Senatorial Candidates Incumbents who hold an At-Large Seat and are running for a college seat, are required only to obtain fifty (50) signatures. However, all fifty (50) signatures must be of students from their respective college.~~

e. ~~Elected or appointed Senatorial Candidates, Incumbents who hold a college seat and are running for an at-large seat, are exempt from acquiring not required to receive student endorsements.~~

f. Those seeking a Presidential/Vice-Presidential ticket must submit at least four hundred fifty (450) signatures ~~per~~ ticket.

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- g. Presidential/Vice-Presidential incumbents, in which both individuals are the same and running for the same office, are not required to receive student endorsement.
 - h. Each signature must represent be an current A&S fee-paying student of the University of North Florida and include shall be accompanied by the student's N-number and printed name.

11 6. Senate and Committee Attendance Forms

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- a. ~~Senate and Committee attendance form: The prospective candidate must submit a Senate and Committee attendance form, signed by the student and co-signed by the Senate President and Committee Chairs affirming that the student has attended one (1) full Senate and two (2) full Committee meeting in the academic semester in which the student is to run.~~
 - b. ~~Election Supervisor Attendance Form: All presidential tickets must submit a time stamped form confirming a meeting with the Elections Supervisor to discuss election regulations, dates, and procedures.~~

26
27 7. Code of Ethics Form

28 8. Elections Timeline and Calendar

29
30 B. Presidential, vice-presidential and senatorial candidates, are required
31 to attend the following:

32
33 1. One (1) full Senate and at least two (2) full Committee meetings

- 34
35 a. In the event of an extenuating circumstance, the
36 candidate may be excused from attendance
37 requirements through a written appeal to the Elections
38 Commission. This appeal must be submitted within
39 twenty-four (24) hours before the deadline to submit
40 the candidate application. All appeals are considered
41 approved if passed by a majority vote of the Elections
42 Commission.

43
44 2. A Candidate Seminar, which shall be held on at least three (3)
45 separate dates prescribed by the Elections Supervisor

- 46
47 a. In the event of an extenuating circumstance, the
 candidate may request a meeting with the Elections

2. Supervisor. Such requests must be submitted within
3. twenty-four (24) hours after the final candidate seminar.

- 4
5 b. Failure to attend a candidate seminar or fulfill the
6 provisions of Part A shall result in a candidate's
7 disqualification.

8
9 3. ~~Presidential Tickets and must meet individually with the Election~~
10 ~~Supervisor to discuss the Candidate Seminar Document and the~~
11 ~~Election Code before candidate application deadline. Candidates~~
12 ~~must obtain a signature from the Election Supervisor~~
13 ~~documenting the meeting. This is an opportunity to obtain~~
14 ~~clarification on all election regulations, dates and procedures.~~

15
16 a. ~~In the event of an extenuating circumstance the~~
17 ~~candidate may request a meeting with the E&A~~
18 ~~Committee prior to the Application Deadline. If the~~
19 ~~E&A Committee finds by a majority vote that an~~
20 ~~extenuating circumstance existed, an extension may be~~
21 ~~granted.~~

22
23 H. ~~Elected candidates shall not be required to attend a candidate~~
24 ~~seminar; however, they are responsible to obtain all information from~~
25 ~~the Election Supervisor.~~

26
27 B. Application Procedures

- 28
29 1. ~~The filing date for those wishing to appear on the Official Ballot~~
30 ~~shall be no earlier than the beginning of the semester in which~~
31 ~~the student is to run and no later than fifteen (15) days before the~~
32 ~~start of the election by 5:00 PM. The Elections Supervisor must~~
33 ~~post notice of the close of filing ten (10) business days preceding~~
34 ~~that date.~~
35
36 2. ~~Failure to submit by the close of filing will result in the~~
37 ~~candidate's name not appearing on the official ballot. The~~
38 ~~Elections Supervisor will enforce this policy.~~
39
40 3. ~~No one may declare candidacy for more than one (1) office~~
41 ~~during a given election cycle.~~
42
43 4. ~~Candidacy may be withdrawn up to the time the Ballot is printed~~
44 ~~by presenting a statement of withdrawal to the Elections~~
45 ~~Supervisor.~~
46
47 5. ~~Students must declare candidacy under their current legal name.~~

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6. ~~A current Senator may not run in an Election if their seat is not up for Re-Election. For example: a Fall Senator may not run in the Spring Election for a Spring Senatorial Seat while holding a Fall Seat.~~

603.3 ~~Approval for Candidacy~~

A. ~~The Elections Supervisor, with the assistance of the Student Government Advisor, shall investigate the qualifications of all candidates and may reject candidates unqualified according to requirements specified within the Election Code.~~

B. ~~Unopposed candidates shall be deemed to have voted for him or herself and declared the winner by acclamation. No election for the respective seat shall be held.~~

C. ~~The Elections Supervisor shall disqualify candidates who make false statements about their qualifications for office.~~

D. ~~The Elections Supervisor shall disqualify candidates who fail to submit all forms correctly by set deadlines.~~

E. ~~The Elections Supervisor shall notify unqualified candidates in writing. The Elections Supervisor has three (3) business days to check the qualification of all candidates and deliver the Notice of Disqualification in writing to all disqualified candidates. Any disqualified candidate(s) may appeal to the Judicial Council.~~

Chapter 604: Election Code of Ethics

The Code of Ethics shall be applicable to all candidates for Student Government elective and appointed office and all persons associated with a candidate's, or ticket or Group of Like-Minded Candidates campaign. All reported complaints must be submitted within two (2) days of the close of polling stations.

A. ~~No candidate, ticket or party shall misrepresent any material fact(s) through any campaign material(s) or while campaigning.~~

B. ~~No candidate or party may misrepresent any campaign material as being the property of any other candidate or party.~~

C. ~~No candidate or party shall condone or authorize the destruction or theft of another candidate's campaign material.~~

D. ~~No candidate or party shall commit written, printed, or verbal defamation.~~

2 A. ~~Candidates and parties are responsible for the actions of~~
3 ~~other individuals and organizations acting on behalf of the given candidate or party,~~
4 ~~and may be subject to review by the Judicial Council for these actions.~~

5
6 B. ~~The Code of Ethics shall become a part of the Candidate Application~~
7 ~~that is distributed to prospective candidates. The Code of Ethics~~
8 ~~Agreement must be signed, dated, and submitted.~~
9

10 **Chapter 602 605: Election Timeline**

11 The following timeline will aid in the Election in that it outlines the specific time
12 requirements set forth in this title. The Election Supervisor shall compile a candidate
13 timeline with relevant dates. This timeline shall be distributed with the Candidate
14 Application. ~~This timeline shall be distributed with the Candidate Application.~~

Election Timeline	
Attribute	Time Period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Declaration of Intent due 	Twenty (20) business days before the start of the first day of elections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidates must attend one (1) Senate and two (2) Committee meetings 	Within the same school semester as the Elections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate Applications Due 	Fifteen (15) Business Days before the first day of elections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three (3) Candidate Seminars must be held 	Three times between the Application deadline and Elections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sample Ballot must be posted and remain up for four (4) business days 	One (1) business day after the Application deadline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate qualifications must be checked • All unqualified candidates must be notified 	Three (3) business days after the application deadline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidate may petition to the Judicial Council 	Within two (2) business days of notification of disqualification
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elections information must be posted in the Spinnaker • Absentee Ballot information must be posted in the Spinnaker 	At least ten (10) business days before the start of the first day of elections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absentee ballots may be requested 	Within one (1) week of Elections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor must tape off Polling regions • Supervisor must remove campaign materials from inside the polling regions • No campaigning allowed inside the polling regions • Ballot cannot change 	Two (2) days prior to the start of the first day of elections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ELECTIONS • Absentee ballots due at closing of polls 	Six (6) to twelve (12) weeks into the Semester (Fall/ Spring)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Statements due • Complaints to Invalidate Elections due • All candidates are responsible for removing campaign materials. 	Within one (1) business day after Elections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor must release unofficial results as long as they are available • Elections Complaints due 	Within two (2) business days after Elections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chief Justice decides merit of Elections Complaints 	Within three (3) business days after the Complaint Deadline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Judicial Council must hear and vote on all Complaints to Invalidate the Elections 	Within eight (8) business days after the Complaint Deadline
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Senate must vote on Validation of the Elections 	At the Senate meeting following Elections

<u>Election Timeline</u>	
<u>Attribute</u>	<u>Time Period</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Candidates must attend one (1) Senate and two (2) Committee meetings</u> 	<u>Within the same school semester as the Elections</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Declaration of Intent</u> • <u>Acknowledgment and Release Form</u> • <u>Party Registration/ Re-Registration</u> 	<u>Due on the twentieth (20) business day preceding the election</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>A list of all candidates who submitted a Declaration of Intent must be posted for two (2) Business Days</u> 	<u>On the business day succeeding the Declaration of Intent deadline</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Three (3) Candidate Seminars must be held</u> 	<u>Between the Declaration of Intent deadline and the Application deadline</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Candidate Applications Due</u> 	<u>On the Fifteenth (15) business day preceding the election</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Sample Ballot must be posted and remain up for two (2) business days</u> 	<u>On the business day succeeding the Application Deadline</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Candidate qualifications must be checked</u> • <u>All unqualified candidates must be notified</u> 	<u>By the fifth (5) business day succeeding the Application deadline</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Candidate may petition disqualification to the Elections Primary Court</u> 	<u>Within two (2) business days of notification of disqualification</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Billboard Campaigning begins</u> 	<u>On the tenth (10) business day preceding the Election</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Elections Supervisor will host at least one (1) Public Debate</u> 	<u>No earlier than the day Billboard Campaigning begins</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Elections information must be posted in the Spinnaker</u> • <u>Absentee Ballot information must be posted in the Spinnaker</u> 	<u>At least once prior to the start of the Elections</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Absentee ballots must be made available</u> 	<u>On the fifth (5) business day preceding the Election</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Supervisor must tape off Polling regions</u> • <u>Ballot cannot change</u> 	<u>On the second (2) business day preceding the Election</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>ELECTIONS</u> • 	<u>Six (6) to twelve (12) weeks into the Semester (Fall/ Spring)</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Absentee ballots due</u> 	<u>At the closing of the polls of the last day of the Election</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Complaints to Invalidate Elections due</u> • <u>All candidates are responsible for removing campaign materials.</u> • <u>Financial Statements due</u> • <u>Elections Complaints due</u> 	<u>The end of the business day immediately succeeding the elections</u>

• <u>Supervisor must release unofficial results as long as they are available</u>	<u>No earlier than the end of Elections Complaints deadline.</u>
• <u>Elections Supervisor must file complaints that occur after the close of elections to the Attorney General.</u>	<u>The end of the second business day succeeding the elections</u>
• <u>The Elections Primary Court will review all complaints for merit.</u>	<u>Within three (3) business days after the complaint filing deadline</u>
• <u>The Elections Primary Court will hold hearings to determine the type of violations that occurred.</u>	<u>Within three (3) to five (5) business days after merit is determined.</u>
• <u>All decisions made by the Elections Primary Court may be appealed to the Elections Supreme Court</u>	<u>Within one (1) business day after the ruling</u>
• <u>The Elections Supreme Court must hear and vote on all appealed Complaints. All decisions made by the Elections Supreme Court are final.</u>	<u>Within three (3) to five (5) business days after an appeal has been made.</u>
• <u>The Senate must vote on Validation of the Elections</u>	<u>At the Senate meeting following Elections</u>

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- A. ~~Campaign Material includes all written or printed materials and items that are distributed in a manner which advertises or calls for support of a specific candidate(s) for elective office.~~
- B. ~~— The Spinnaker, UNP's campus-wide newspaper, shall reserve sufficient space for Student Government's election notices and candidate profiles in each issue during the three week period prior to any Student Government election. The Elections Supervisor is responsible for notifying The Spinnaker of the amount of ad space that will be needed and for providing the final design ready for print to the Spinnaker in accordance with all established deadlines. The Elections Supervisor will supply the newspaper with general information regarding these candidates (i.e.: name, classification, and major). It is the responsibility of each candidate to submit their platform and have a photograph taken by the Elections Supervisor. Any additional information beyond the free platform/photograph that a candidate wishes to submit to the newspaper shall be sold to the candidate as an advertisement, which must be claimed by the candidate as an expense.~~
- C. ~~Campaign materials may not be distributed in such a way as to create excessive litter or to willfully deface or destroy any property, public or private. Each candidate is liable for all campaign materials relating~~

2 to his/her campaign, and shall see to their proper disposal, except as
3 outlined in Chapter 607.2.D.3 of this title.

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5 D. ~~No campaigning or advertising may take place within a classroom
6 while class is in session, unless the candidate is enrolled in said class
7 and has received prior written permission from his/her instructor to
8 do so.~~

9
10 ~~606.2—Other Regulations~~

- 11
12 A. ~~No individual may stand over voters while they complete their ballot
13 unless the voter needs assistance, such as someone with a disability,
14 in which case (s)he is permitted to request a poll worker or a
15 representative from the Disability Resource Center to assist them
16 while voting.~~

- 17
18 B. ~~Verbal Campaigning may occur at any time and at any place except
19 within the polling region (as expressed in Letter 606.2 C), or in the
20 Senate chambers during Senate, cabinet, or committee meetings.
21 Common courtesy is expected in other settings such as classrooms,
22 the Library, the Academic Resource Center or the Computer Labs.~~

- 23
24 C. ~~The Elections Commission may hold debates at any time in the ten
25 (10) days prior to the election. These debates shall include any (and
26 invite all) candidates who have submitted a complete application
27 prior to the time of the debate, and shall be open for attendance to all
28 candidates and the public. Other students and/or organizations have
29 the liberty to hold debates freely. Organizations receiving A&S funds
30 may hold debates during this period, but shall need the approval of
31 the Elections Supervisor regarding date, time, place, format, and
32 notification of candidates, but not of content.~~

- 33
34 D. ~~No campaigning of any kind shall be allowed within the polling
35 region beginning two (2) business days prior to the first day of an
36 election and continuing through election day(s). This shall not
37 include the wearing of apparel in the polling regions as long as the
38 individual is not actively soliciting a vote.~~

- 39
40 E. ~~No campaigning may occur at any time in the Senate chambers
41 during Senate, cabinet, or committee meetings. Common courtesy is
42 expected in other settings such as classrooms, the Library, the
43 Academic Resource Center or the Computer Labs.~~

44
45 **Chapter 607612: Voting and the Polling Stations**

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47 **607.1—Eligible Voters**

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4. ~~Inter-College Elections booths shall be placed in the respective colleges during elections.~~

C. ~~Hours~~

1. ~~Voting booths shall be open from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.~~

2. ~~The Elections Supervisor, upon majority approval by the Elections Commission, may extend but not shorten the hours of the election.~~

3. ~~All Senators not appearing on the ballot or running in the election are required to supervise a polling station for at least two (2) hours during the time of elections. Any Senator not meeting this requirement will be issued an absence.~~

D. ~~Polling Station Procedures~~

1. ~~The Elections Supervisor must mark off the polling region with tape or other tangible items two (2) business days before the first day of the election. The Elections Supervisor or a designee must then remove all posters and campaign literature from this designated area. Two (2) business days before the first day of the election through election day(s), any campaign material or vote soliciting within this polling region will be considered a violation of this statute and subject to the repercussions stated in this statute.~~

2. ~~Bands and loud speakers audibly promoting candidates or parties shall not be allowed within two hundred (200) feet of any voting booth, but a candidate may yell or project his/her voice outside the 75-foot perimeter.~~

3. ~~Poll workers shall be responsible for keeping the polling station clear of campaign materials at all times during elections. Candidates shall not be held responsible for campaign materials discarded on polls, polling stations, or on the ground directly beneath polls and polling stations.~~

4. ~~Voters shall be entitled to vote in privacy, which will be provided by the sides of the voting booths.~~

5. ~~No candidate shall serve as a polling station worker.~~

6. ~~Authorized polling station workers will maintain the student registrar list or other means of preventing students from voting more than once.~~

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7. ~~The University of North Florida Student Identification card shall serve as a student voter registration card for campus elections. If necessary, a valid Driver's License, Military Identification card, Passport, or State issued Identification card may be accepted, but must be cross-referenced immediately with a student registrar list.~~
 8. ~~No students may conduct exit polling within twenty feet (20') of the polling station.~~

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~~-607.3 The Ballot~~

Chapter 611: The Ballot

A. Format

1. The official ballot must contain the list of all vacant offices to be filled by the election, referendum questions, and constitutional amendments.
2. Candidates shall be listed in alphabetical order by their last names ~~in accordance with their party affiliation. There shall be separate columns of each party. The ballot shall identify each candidate's party affiliation by including the party title in parenthesis after the candidate's name. If there are independent candidates, then there shall be a separate column for them entitled the ballot shall state "No Party Affiliation" instead of a party name.~~
3. ~~For elections to office, the ballot shall only contain the names of the candidates who properly filed all appropriate paperwork by the deadline as set by the Elections Supervisor and are otherwise qualified to hold the office they seek. The candidates' names shall be printed in the same form as requested at the time of filing.~~
43. ~~A sample ballot must be posted in the Student Government Lobby Rotunda as prescribed by the Election Timeline and shall remain posted for four (4) business days. All errors or discrepancies must be reported to the Elections Supervisor in writing during this timeframe. Any errors must be reported to the Elections Supervisor who will make corrections at this time.~~
4. ~~Disqualified candidates from the sample ballot may petition to be reinstated through an appeal to the Judicial Council,~~

provided such an order is filed no later than two (2) business days within the notice of disqualification to any election.

64. The Official Ballot may not be changed or altered after a certain point as described by the timeline. ~~within the two (2) business days preceding any election.~~

B. Constitutional Referenda

1. The Elections Supervisor shall include Constitutional referenda on the official ballot as prescribed by Article VI, Section 1 ~~upon two-thirds (2/3) approval of the Senate or upon receipt of a Student Body petition (Article VI of the Student Government Constitution).~~
2. The official ballot for a referendum shall give a brief statement regarding the proposed changes. Voters shall be given the opportunity to vote "YES" or "NO" for the proposed changes. ~~Any ballot not clearly marked "YES" or "NO" will not be counted.~~
3. If completed copies of all proposed referenda or revisions cannot be printed on the official ballot itself, copies shall be available for inspection at the voting booths.
4. ~~Referenda may be placed on the official ballot of a General Election or a Special Election may be held. Discretion shall be left up to the majority of the Senate at the time of passage of the referendum.~~

C. ~~Constitutional Referenda~~

1. ~~Use of Constitutional Referenda shall coincide with Article VI of the Constitution~~

D. Absentee Ballots

1. Absentee ballots shall consist of a copy of the official ballot and instructions for voting.
2. ~~Students away from campus on Election Day may request absentee ballots from the Elections Supervisor as prescribed by the Election Timeline no later than seven (7) business days preceding the election.~~ This ballot must be returned to the Elections Supervisor no later than the close of the polls on the last day of elections, by 7:00 p.m. Students submitting absentee ballots must enclose, with the ballot, a along with a

made in the presence of the Elections Supervisor and two (2) Election Commission Members.

2. ~~If any ballots are hand-counted, which can occur only in unforeseen, emergency situations, counting shall be done in a public place designated by the Elections Supervisor. The Elections Supervisor and two (2) Election Commission Members must be present.~~

3. ~~The Elections Supervisor shall order an immediate recount if the difference between two (2) or more candidates is five (5) percent or less of the total votes cast. If the results of the recount reveal that a different candidate would be elected, then the Elections Supervisor shall immediately order a third count. If the Elections Supervisor does not order a recount, the Election Commission must convene and order one.~~

4. ~~No ballot shall be disqualified if the voter's choice is clear. Any parts of a ballot that is marked correctly and legally shall be counted.~~

Chapter 607 606: Campaigning Party Registration

607.1 All parties and candidates associated with them are required to follow these guidelines.

607.2 Party Formation

- A. All A&S-fee paying students have the right and ability to form a party.
- B. In order for an A&S-fee paying student to register a party he/she must submit a Party Registration Form.

607.3 Party Re-Registration

- A. In order for a party chair to re-register a party, he/she must submit a Party Registration Form.
- B. A party must re-register every spring semester. If a party fails to re-register, as prescribed by 609.4, B, then that party name may not be used until re-registration takes place, and that party will be considered inactive.
- C. If a party fails to re-register for two (2) election cycles following the one in which it was declared inactive, that party shall cease to exist and shall forfeit exclusive rights to its name.

607.4 Party Registration Form

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- A. This form shall be provided by Student Government and shall have spaces for the following:
 - i. The party's name
 - ii. The current party chair's name, N-number, and signature (if applicable)
 - iii. The new party chair's name, N-number, and signature
 - B. This form shall be turned into the Elections Supervisor with the same deadline as the Declaration of Intent.
 - C. Each party must have a designated party chair. Only A&S-fee paying students may become party chairs. Party chairs do not have to be candidates.
 - a. If the current party chair is no longer an A&S-fee paying student, he/she shall be allowed to remain party chair and retain party rights until the end of the next two (2) election cycles.

21 **607.5 Naming Restrictions**

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- A. The Elections Supervisor shall have the authority to deny a party registration request on the grounds that it violates any of the naming provisions contained in this section. The Elections Supervisor's decision may be appealed to the Judicial Council.
 - B. No party may register under a name that gives the impression of university endorsement or that uses official university language. Examples include but are not limited to: "The University of North Florida Party," "The Blue and Grey Party," "The No One Like You, No Place Like This Party," "The Ozzie Party," or "The Osprey Party."
 - C. No party may have the same name or give the impression of having the same name as another registered party. Examples include but are not limited to: "The Kool Party" and "The Cool Party," or "The Rock Party" and "The Rockk Party."
 - D. No Party may register a party name as "No Party Affiliation" or any name with the word "Independent."

40 **Chapter 609 Campaigning**

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- 609.1640.1 All Candidates and individuals associated with specific campaigns are required to follow these guidelines. These guidelines are to assist both parties and unaffiliated candidates in carrying out a legal and fair campaign.
 - 609.2640.2 Campaign Materials and Practices

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- A. No campaigning may occur at any time on the third floor of building fifty-eight (58) East, in the Senate chambers during Senate, cabinet, or committee meetings.
 - B. Campaign materials may not be distributed in such a way as to create excessive litter or to willfully deface any property, public or private.
 - C. Each candidate is liable for all campaign materials relating to his/her campaign, and shall see to their proper disposal, except materials discarded by voters in the polling region while the polls are open.
 - D. No campaigning or advertising may take place within a classroom while class is in session unless the candidate ~~is enrolled in said class and~~ has received prior written permission from the his/her instructor to do so.
 - E. It is the responsibility of the candidates to remove campaign materials inside the polling region by the opening of the polls on the first day of the election.
 - F. No campaigning may occur within the polling region while the polls are open.
 - G. Bands and loud speakers audibly promoting candidates or parties shall not be allowed while the polls are open. ~~within two hundred (200) feet of any voting booth.~~
 - H. ~~Non-Student Government students and/or organizations have the liberty to hold debates freely. Organizations receiving A&S funds may hold debates during this period, but shall need the approval of the Elections Supervisor regarding date, time, place, format, and notification of candidates~~
 - I. Candidates and parties are responsible for removing their materials associated, with billboard campaigning as described in the elections timeline and each party or non-affiliated candidate can only receive one complaint for failing to abide by the deadline.

40 **Chapter 608 Campaign Finances**

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42 **608.1 Contributions**

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44 A. Any items donated (not purchased directly by a candidate) shall be reported on a party's or individual's financial statement in the same manner as an expense (purchased directly by a candidate).

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47 **608.2 Expenses**

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A. Claiming Expenses

- i. Indirect campaign materials (example: staplers, paint brushes, hammers, shovels, printers, etc.) do not need to be claimed as an expense on a party's or an individual's Financial Statement.
- ii. Direct campaign materials (example: billboard signs, road signs, flyers, banners, giveaways, etc.) shall be claimed at full cost on a party's or an individual's Financial Statement.
- iii. Re-used campaign materials may be claimed at forty percent (40%) of their original cost. If receipts cannot be furnished to validate these amounts, a candidate or party must claim such items at full cost.
- iv. Radio, television, and newspaper advertisements shall not be considered a campaign expense if free, equal time is available for each candidate for a particular office. Should free, equal time not be made available, the broadcast time must be claimed at full cost.

B. Expense Limits

- i. A Presidential/Vice-Presidential Ticket shall have total expenses not to exceed three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500).
- ii. A senatorial candidate shall have total expenses not to exceed five hundred dollars (\$500).
- iii. If multiple candidates are running as a party, that party's total expenses shall not exceed the sum of the candidate's individual limits combined.

608.3 Financial Statements

- A. A complete Financial Statement must be submitted to the Elections Supervisor as prescribed by the Election Timeline. Upon submission, Financial Statements become public record.
- B. Each unaffiliated candidate must submit a Financial Statement. If candidates are grouped into a party, that party shall submit one (1) comprehensive financial statement signed and verified by the party chair and each candidate running with that party.
- C. A complete Financial Statement consists of:
 - a. List of Expenses

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- i. This itemized list of all expenses must include a description of each good/service purchased or donated for a party's or an individual's campaign. All items on this list must be claimed at the appropriate cost.
 - ii. The list of expenses must also state the total cost of a party's or an individual's campaign.
- b. Copies of receipts and/or invoices proving the cost validity of all campaign purchases, donations, and re-used items.
 - c. Campaign expenditures of a purely off-campus nature (example: off-campus promotional events) do not have to be claimed as expenses on the Financial Statements. This clause does not apply to off-campus radio, television, or newspaper advertisements.

17 **Chapter 608: Monetary Requirements**

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19 **608.1 Campaign Contributions and Expenses**

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21 **C. Campaign Contributions shall include but are not limited to:**

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- 1. ~~Indirect campaign materials (i.e.: staplers, paint brushes, hammers, shovels, printers, etc.). These items shall not be seen as Campaign Expenses and do not need to be listed on a candidate's Financial Statement.~~
 - 2. ~~Donated material items that are used towards campaigning must be submitted as Campaign Expenses and claimed at full cost.~~

32 **B. Campaign Expenses of candidates shall be limited to the following:**

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- 1. ~~A Presidential Ticket shall be limited to Three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500)~~
 - 2. ~~Senate Candidates~~
 - a. ~~Senate At Large and the graduate seats (Seats 1-42) shall be limited to five hundred dollars (\$500) per candidate.~~
 - b. ~~College Seats (Seats 43-52) shall be limited to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per candidate.~~
 - 3. ~~If candidates are affiliated with a party, costs can be split for campaign materials that support the entire group. Otherwise, items that individual candidates/ Parties use must be claimed at full cost.~~

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3 4. ~~Reused campaign materials shall be claimed at 40% of fair~~
4 ~~market value. These items must be itemized under the List of~~
5 ~~expenses. Those who claim reused campaign materials must~~
6 ~~submit a receipt, with a date prior to the previous election~~
7 ~~dates.~~

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9 C. ~~Radio, television and newspaper advertisements shall not be~~
10 ~~considered a campaign expense if free, equal time is available for each~~
11 ~~candidate for a particular office. Should free, equal time not be made~~
12 ~~available, cost of broadcast time must be included in Expense~~
13 ~~Statements.~~

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15 D. ~~Each candidate is responsible for claiming all Campaign Expenses~~
16 ~~while remaining within their respective monetary limits.~~

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18 ~~608.2 Financial Statements~~

19 ~~Financial Statements shall be submitted by all candidates to the Elections~~
20 ~~Supervisor no later than 5:00 p.m. on the day following the conclusion of~~
21 ~~elections. Upon submission, Financial Statements become public record.~~
22 ~~Financial Statements will be reviewed by the Elections Commission to ensure~~
23 ~~compliance with statutes. Complete Financial Statements shall include:~~

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25 A. ~~List of Contributions~~

26 ~~An itemized list of all individuals and businesses who~~
27 ~~contributed any money or goods to a campaign along with~~
28 ~~the amount of money contributed and/or a list of~~
29 ~~contributed goods.~~

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31 B. ~~List of Expenses~~

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33 1. ~~This itemized list of all expenses must include a description~~
34 ~~of the good/service purchased and the full cost of each~~
35 ~~item.~~

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37 2. ~~The list of expenses must also state the Total Campaign~~
38 ~~Cost.~~

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40 C. ~~Copies of receipts and/or invoices proving purchase of all~~
41 ~~campaign expenses and gifts in kind.~~

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43 D. ~~Campaign expenditures of a purely off-campus nature (e.g.,~~
44 ~~off-campus announcement dinners) do not have to be~~
45 ~~claimed as expenses on the Financial Statements.~~

2 610.1643.4

3 The Code of Ethics shall be applicable to all candidates running for Student
4 Government elective elected and appointed office and all persons associated
5 with a candidate's, or ticket or Group of Like Minded Candidates campaign.
6 All reported complaints must be submitted within two (2) days of the close
7 of polling stations.

- 8 A. No candidate shall physically, emotionally, or mentally abuse any
9 other candidate, student, or university employee.
- 10 B. The Code of Ethics shall ~~become~~ a part of the Candidate Application
11 that is distributed to prospective candidates. The Code of Ethics
12 Agreement must be signed, dated, and submitted.
- 13 C. No candidate, ~~ticket or party~~ shall misrepresent any material fact(s)
14 through any campaign material(s) or action(s) ~~while campaigning.~~
- 15 D. No candidate or party ~~may~~ shall misrepresent any campaign
16 material(s) or action(s) as being the property or undertaking of any
17 other candidate or party.
- 18 E. No candidate or party shall condone or authorize the destruction or
19 theft of another candidate's or party's campaign material(s).
- 20 F. No candidate or party shall commit written, printed, or verbal
21 defamation.
- 22 G. Candidates and parties are responsible for the actions of other
23 individuals and/or organizations acting on their behalf ~~of the given~~
24 ~~candidate or party,~~ and may be subject to review by the Judicial
25 Council for these actions.

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33 Chapter 613 ~~609~~: Violations of the Election Code

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35 613.1 Major and Minor Offenses

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37 Violations of this Statute shall be designated as either a Major or Minor
38 Offense as follows:

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40 A. Major Offenses- Any offense that aims to cause a major effect on the
41 outcome of an election such as, but not limited to:
- 42 a. Tampering with election machinery
 - 43 b. Casting multiple ballots
 - 44 c. Falsification of facts or information
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- d. Intentionally causing another candidate to incur violations
 - e. ~~Failure to submit a Candidate Expense Statement three (3) business days following any election~~
 - f. ~~Knowingly spending over the maximum amount allowed~~
 - g. ~~Spending two (2) percent or more over the expense limit~~
 - h. ~~Intentionally failing to report applicable expenditures in an expense statement~~
 - i. Involvement with an effort to falsify the election in any way
 - j. Material violation of the Code of Ethics agreement
 - k. Any other offense deemed inappropriate by the elections commission to the level that said individual acts in a way unbecoming of his/her desired office (i.e. conviction of a felony, discrimination etc.).
 - l. ~~Five minor offenses shall constitute a major offense.~~
- B. Minor Offenses- Five minor offenses shall constitute a major offense. Minor offenses shall include but not be limited to:
- a. Any violation of the university guidelines document
 - b. Failure to submit a Candidate Expense Statement by the deadline. Each day late shall be considered a single offense, as written in this Statute
 - e. Spending an excess of the campaign finance limit. Each percentage over the limit shall be considered a single offense. Minor miscalculation on an expense statement.
 - d. ~~Any other violations of this Statute not deemed a Major offense.~~

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Chapter 614: Judicial Review

614.1 Election Violations Statute of Limitations

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- A. ~~The intent of the Statue of Limitations is to quickly address alleged violations of the code; not to overturn the vote of the students.~~

3 BA. ~~Complaints alleging violations of the Election Code under this~~
4 ~~Chapter~~ must be submitted to the Attorney General in writing within
5 two (2) business days following the election ~~or be forever barred.~~

6 EB. The Judicial Council must consult with the University of North
7 Florida's General Counsel on all election related matters before
8 rendering a verdict election related matters, and the decision of the
9 Judicial Council will be final. The General Council's opinion shall not
10 be binding.

11 C. Any elected candidates who have outstanding election disputes may not
12 be sworn into office until such disputes are resolved as prescribed by law.

13 609.3. ~~Expense Violations~~

14 A. ~~Any offense related to the Candidate Expense Statement will be~~
15 ~~deemed an Expense Violation. Candidates committing expense~~
16 ~~violations are subject to the review of the Elections Commission and~~
17 ~~will be assessed appropriate penalties.~~

18 B. ~~Candidates and Parties are responsible for all Campaign Expenses~~
19 ~~made on their behalf.~~

20 C. ~~It is the responsibility of all candidates to inquire about expenses and~~
21 ~~services made by persons, parties or organizations on their behalf.~~

22 609.4 ~~Campaign Violations~~

23 A. ~~Any offense of the Election Code or the Campaign Guidelines~~
24 ~~Document will be deemed a Campaign Violation. Candidates~~
25 ~~committing campaign violations are subject to the review of the~~
26 ~~Elections Commission and will be assessed appropriate penalties.~~

27 B. ~~Candidates and Parties are responsible for the actions of other~~
28 ~~individuals and organizations acting on behalf of the candidate or~~
29 ~~party, and may be subject to review by the Elections Commission for~~
30 ~~these actions.~~

31 C. ~~It is the responsibility of all candidates to inquire about actions~~
32 ~~performed by persons, parties or organizations on their behalf.~~

33 614.2 ~~Procedure for Filing Charges for Adjudication of Campaign Violations~~

34 A. The Judicial Council shall have jurisdiction over the adjudication of
35 campaign violations as outlined in this chapter as well as in Title V.

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- B. Any student who has an campaign elections complaint must file it said complaint in writing with supporting evidence to the Attorney General. The Attorney General shall make copies of the complaint for the Elections Supervisor, the SG Advisor, the Student Advocate, and the President. The Attorney General will then forward the complaint to the Elections Primary Court.

 - C. ~~The Chief Justice will review each filed complaint and determine its validity. If the Chief Justice finds a filed complaint to have validity the Judicial Council shall hear the complaint and determine the appropriate sanction. The Judicial Council may assess minor and/or major violations. All decisions rendered by the Judicial Council shall be final.~~

 - D. The Elections Primary Court
 - 1. The Elections Primary Court will handle election violation cases on the schedule prescribed by the Elections Timeline.
 - 2. At the hearing, the Attorney General shall serve as the lead prosecutor. The candidate against whom the violation was filed shall be the defendant. He/she may receive council from the Student Advocate, if requested. All further procedural hearing requirements shall be outlined in the Judicial Council's Policies and Procedures Manual.

 - E. The Elections Supreme Court
 - 1. The Elections Supreme Court will handle election violation cases appealed from the Elections Primary Court on the schedule prescribed by the Elections Timeline.
 - 2. As in the Elections Primary Court, the Attorney General shall serve as the lead prosecutor. The candidate against whom the violation was filed shall be the defendant. He/she may receive council from the Student Advocate, if requested. All decisions of the Elections Supreme Court are final. All further procedural hearing requirements shall be outlined in the Judicial Council's Policies and Procedures Manual.

 - F. ~~All decisions of the Elections Commission are subject to appeal to the Judicial Council, whose decision shall be final.~~

45 609.6—Penalties

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- E. Persons Candidates found to have committed any major violations must be disqualified from the election ~~and/or removed from office;~~

as-is appropriate.

B. ~~Five minor violations shall constitute a major violation.~~

C. ~~Due to the fact that Financial Statements are due on the first day immediately following on the elections, failure to submit a Candidate Expense Statement no later than 5:00 PM will result in the Elections Supervisor filing a complaint to the Judicial Council.~~

Chapter ~~615~~ 610: Invalidation

615.1 Individual and small groups of ballots may not be invalidated for any reason except in the instance that an individual is caught in the action of voting multiple times and the votes of that person can be removed. ~~Only the Elections Supervisor may invalidate the vote in this situation, subject to the approval of the Elections Commission.~~

615.2 The Elections Supervisor may invalidate the election at any time prior to the release of election results with a two-thirds vote of the Elections Commission.

615.3 Other students may call for invalidation of the election within twenty-four (24) hours of the end of the election. ~~Such Students must file their written complaint to the Elections Supervisor, the Attorney General, and the Student Advocate. The Elections Supervisor shall make copies of the complaint for the Attorney General, the SG Advisor, the Student Advocate, and the President. The Elections Supervisor will then present the complaint to the Elections Commission as prescribed by the Election Timeline and this chapter. It will then be investigated and brought before the Elections Primary Court Commission within three (3) business days from the end of the election for a decision.~~

615.4 ~~The decision(s) reached by the Elections Commission may be appealed to the Judiciary within two (2) business days or forever be barred.~~

615.5 ~~The Elections Primary Court and/or Elections Supreme Court Commission must deny all invalidation complaints before the Senate can validate the election. The Elections Supervisor chairperson of the Elections Commission must report the decision to invalidate to the Senate before they vote to validate the election. Any current senators running in the election may be present for this decision but may not vote. They will not count for or against quorum at this time.~~

615.6 ~~Referenda can be invalidated by the same process but separately from a general or inner-collegiate election.~~

615.7 Following posting of the results, official or unofficial, no more complaints

calling for invalidation of the election will be accepted.

615.8 Upon invalidation of the election, the Elections Supervisor must call another election within three weeks or before the end of the semester, whichever comes first. This election does not require the approval of the Elections Commission. The same ballot must be used for this election; exceptions are limited to candidates who wish to or are required to be removed from the ballot and any referenda the Senate chooses to add to the ballot.

Chapter ~~616~~ 614: Assuming Office

616.1 Announcement of Election Results

- A. The Elections Supervisor must release “unofficial” results no earlier than the end of the elections complaints deadline but as soon after as possible, within two (2) business days after the end of the election, as long as results are available. ~~In the event that they are unavailable within two (2) business days of the election, the Elections Supervisor must release the results as soon as they are available.~~
- B. Election results must be sealed from view until unofficial publication. The Elections Supervisor, ~~the Elections Commissioner,~~ and the Attorney General may view the results after the polls close on the final day of the election.
- C. Official election results can be neither posted nor disclosed to any other parties until complaints or charges calling to invalidate the election has been validated have been resolved by the Senate and the validation bill has been signed by the President. ~~complaints or charges calling to invalidate the election has been validated have been resolved by the Senate and the validation bill has been signed by the President.~~
- D. At the next Senate meeting, the Senate must vote on validation of the election. A majority vote is necessary to validate the election. ~~The election can only be validated if a majority of Senators present at the meeting vote “yes” on the bill to validate the election. The Elections Supervisor shall then post the official results.~~
- E. The Election Supervisor shall prepare and distribute a press release announcing the final results immediately following executive action signing the validation bill into law. ~~All announcements of the final results shall include a statement that the results may be challenged to the Judicial Council.~~
- ~~E. The Elections Supervisor or the Attorney General shall not disclose election results, either partial or full, before official publication.~~

616.2 Certificates of Election shall be issued to candidates upon swearing in the newly elected officers.

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A. ~~Certificates of Election shall be issued to candidates upon validation of the election:~~

B. ~~Certificates of Election shall be of a form prescribed by the Elections Supervisor:~~

C. ~~The President and the Elections Supervisor must sign the Certificate of Election to certify the candidate's proper election:~~

616.3 Installation

The Installation process shall begin within five (5) business days of the last day of any election. Candidates with the most votes shall assume all abilities and responsibilities of office when and only when, in accordance with specifications of this title and in this order:

A. A bill to validate the election is posted by the Election Supervisor,

B. The bill to validate the election is passed,

C. And each Elected Senatorial Candidate is sworn into office.

1. Elected candidates shall be sworn into office by the Chief Justice or another member of the Judicial Council as designated by the Chief Justice, using the following oath:

"I (name of Individual), do hereby affirm to uphold the office of (Title), and to abide by the laws of the United States of America, the Constitution of the Student Government of The University of North Florida, and to represent the Student Body to the best of my ability, so help me God."

2. Elected senatorial candidates shall be sworn into office at the first Senate meeting following the validation of the election. They will take the oath of office immediately after validation of the election and assume the duties and responsibilities prescribed for the office. Presidents- and Vice Presidents-elect will be sworn in as dictated by Title III.

Therefore: Let it be enacted, by the University of North Florida Student Government that the proposed revisions to Title VI be made effective immediately and all Chapters be properly placed in the numerical order as outlined within the "Table of Contents."

Senate Action

Respectfully Submitted: Senator Joel Versace _____
Introduced by: Senator Joel Versace _____
Senate Action: Unanimously consented _____
Date: January 9, 2012 _____
Signed, **Carlo Fassi** _____

Carlo Fassi, Student Senate President

Executive Action

Let it be known that SB-12S-2566 is hereby
PASSED / VETOED / LINE-ITEM VETOED
on this 10 day of January, 2012
Signed, **Matthew Brockelman**

Matthew Brockelman, Student Body President