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SGA Resolution of Governance: Define Procedures for Referenda

Student Government Association, Northeastern University

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

A Resolution of Governance to Define Procedures for Referenda to Represent the Direct Voice of the Undergraduate Student Body.

RG-FA-10-115

Whereas: All legislation currently defined within the Bylaws must be routed through the Senate;
AND

Whereas: The undergraduate student body should have the right to enact change within their Student Government Association directly, as a collective body; **AND**

Whereas: A showing of strong student support should be required to place a referendum on the ballot; **AND**

Whereas: The Senate should be bound by the result of a direct statement by the undergraduate student body. **THEREFORE**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Article V of the Bylaws be modified to add Article V.E as follows:

- E. A referendum is a direct vote in which the undergraduate student body is asked to either accept or reject a particular proposal. When appropriate, members of the Association may propose a referendum to force the Senate to perform according to the students' wishes on a particular issue, or to amend the governing documents of the Association. Referenda will be classified according to the same distinctions as Senate legislation.
 - a. Referenda are carried out in accordance with policies and a time line established by the Executive Board.
 - b. Referenda will be accepted according to the follow procedure:
 - i. The sponsor of the referenda must complete the Referenda Submission Form (to be released no later than one month prior to the due date) along with 750 signatures of undergraduate students affirming the relevance of posing the question.
 - ii. The Executive Board and the Senate will examine and approve the question for feasibility, adherence to University policies, and fairness in wording. All appeals of the decision after being heard by the Executive Board and the Senate are referred to Operational Appeals Board.
 - iii. All approved questions will be posed to the student body during the spring direct elections for a campus-wide vote.
 - iv. The Senate will act in accordance with the outcome within three months.

Respectfully submitted to the Senate,

Ryan J. Fox
President

ATTEST: Sean P. Maloney
Executive Vice President

Date: _____

YAY: _____

NAY: _____

ABSTAIN: _____