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SGA Resolution of Governance: Referenda Procedure

Student Government Association, Northeastern University

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

A Resolution of Governance to ensure a clear and consistent Referenda process.

RG-FA-11-102

- Whereas:** A referendum is a direct vote in which the undergraduate student body is asked to either accept or reject a particular proposal; **AND**
- Whereas:** When appropriate, members of the Association 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; **AND**
- Whereas:** Previously, the sponsor of the referenda had to 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; **AND**
- Whereas:** The current referenda signature requirement is not clearly written leaving it vulnerable to misuse and unclear interpretation; **THEREFORE**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Article V, Section E, of the Bylaws be modified 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. Referenda will be classified according to the same distinctions as Senate legislation.

2. Referenda will be accepted according to the following procedure:
 - a. The sponsor of the referenda must complete the Referenda Submission Form (to be released no later than one month prior to the due date) to the Executive Board. The Board will examine and approve the question for feasibility, adherence to University policies, and fairness in wording.
 - b. If approved, the referendum and 750 undergraduate student signatures will be provided to the Senate. The Senate will further examine and approve the question for feasibility, adherence to University policies, and fairness in wording.
 - c. All appeals of the decision after being heard by the Executive Board and the Senate are referred to the Operational Appeals Board.
 - d. All approved questions will be posed to the student body during the spring direct elections for a campus-wide vote.

Respectfully submitted to the Senate,



Michael W. Sabo
President

ATTEST: William D. Pett
Executive Vice President

Date: _____

YAY: _____

NAY: _____

ABSTAIN: _____