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SGA Resolution of Governance: Impeachment Clarification

Student Government Association, Northeastern University

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STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

A Resolution of Governance Clarifying the Impeachment Process and Allowing for the Removal of an Officer.

RG-FA-11-111

Whereas: Article V Section A Subsection 7 of the Constitution states “Senate has the power to remove any officer from the Association, following the impeachment process set forth in the bylaws.” **AND**

Whereas: Article VI Section A of the Bylaws says after a motion to Impeach is carried and proceedings are underway, “A vote will be taken on the question and must pass by three-fourths majority.” **AND**

Whereas: There is no set definition of what happens after a motion to impeach is fully carried and the officer is impeached; **AND**

Whereas: The Senate should have the power to sanction and remove its members and officers should the circumstances call for it. **THEREFORE**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Article VI Section A of the Bylaws read:

- A. Impeachment is defined as the process whereby an accusation is brought against a member for serious misconduct. These charges must be initiated on the Senate floor.
 1. Any member of the Senate may move Articles of Impeachment and name the person at whom the charges are directed. There must be a second to the motion.
 2. Before stating the motion and naming the individual(s), the mover must motion to enter into executive session for the purpose of hearing a motion to impeach.
 3. If carried, the motion to impeach may then be debated.
 4. Once debate closes, a vote will be taken to determine if the process should be continued. A simple majority will carry this motion.
 5. At this time, the individual is impeached.

AND FURTHER THAT

Article VI Section B of the Bylaws be inserted to say:

- B. If the Senate passes Articles of Impeachment, a Full Body Senate meeting will be convened to hear the impeachment charges and decide whether to convict the accused individual.
 1. At this meeting, the Senator who made the initial motion shall present detailed reasons for requesting the impeachment.

2. The person so accused will then have an opportunity to rebut the charges.
3. A vote will be taken on the question and must pass by three-fourths majority.
4. If issues remain unclear, the motion can be postponed for one week. The three-week notification requirement for this Full Body Senate will be waived, however, with at least one-week notice given to Senators prior to such meetings.

AND FURTHER THAT

Article VI Section C of the Bylaws be inserted to say:

- C. Should a member or officer be formally impeached and convicted by the Senate, the process for sanction or removal from office shall be as follows.
 1. The Executive Board will convene and recommend a formal sanction on the individual who was impeached, which shall carry by a two-thirds majority vote.
 2. A Full Body Senate will be convened. The three-week notification requirement for this Full Body Senate will be waived with at least one-week notice given to Senators prior to this meeting.
 3. The Executive Board will present its formal recommendation rationale to the Senate.
 4. The Senate will deliberate the formal Executive Board recommendation and any other recommendation made by any Senator.
 5. Any sanction must be approved by a four-fifths majority vote of the Senate.

Respectfully submitted to the Senate,

 Anthony Golia IV
 Comptroller

 Michael W. Sabo
 President

ATTEST:

 William D. Pett
 Executive Vice President

Date: _____

YAY: _____

NAY: _____

ABSTAIN: _____

