By-Laws Bill S2017-B5

WHEREAS, the Election Board is to serve as an impartial and unbiased component of the University of North Texas’ Student Government Association.

WHEREAS, the Election Board exists to organize and oversee all Student Government Association elections in a manner consistent with the University of North Texas Student Code of Conduct.

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Student Government Association to make necessary changes to the SGA By-Laws, in order to create transparency within elections.

LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT, Article V: Section 2, Article V: Section 7, and Article V: Section 8 be amended to include additional subsections that preserve impartiality throughout any election.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, the following changes and additions be added to the UNT SGA By-Laws:

Article V: Section 2: Subsection G:

All Election Board meetings will be open only to Election Board members, the SGA Advisor and a member of the Supreme Court. The Board shall keep written minutes of all meetings, including hearings. Quorum for all Board meetings, including election certification meetings, shall be defined as three Board members plus the Election Commissioner.

Article V: Section 2: Subsection H:

All members of the election board, including the Election Commissioner shall fill out a disclosure form, submitted within 24 hours after the beginning of the spring elections. The disclosure form shall be publicly available on the Student Government Association website.

Article V: Section 7: Subsection I:

If a candidate is disqualified, any vote cast for the disqualified candidate will be included in the final count of votes used to determine the percentage majority.

Article V: Section 8: Subsection 2 C:

Upon receiving a complaint, the Election Board shall have 72 hours to
initiate a hearing. Each involved party will be given a reasonable amount of time to state their case, during which any Election Board Member may ask questions. The hearing shall be concluded no longer than seven days after the accused party is summoned.

Article V: Section 8: Subsection 2 E:

When a violation is issued against a candidate or Referendum Party, the Election Commissioner will be required to inform the accused candidate or referendum party of specific details about the complaint, as well as viable evidence supporting the accuser’s claim. The Election Commissioner must send the evidence and information within a timely manner, so that the accused candidate or referendum party may have the sufficient time required to refute the violation.

Article V: Section 8: Subsection 2 F:

The accused shall have 48 hours to prepare a defense. An election code hearing shall not take place unless the defense has received all evidence collected.

Article V: Section 8: Subsection 2 G:

If a member of the Election Board, or the Election Commissioner, files a complaint against a campaign or referendum party, they must recuse themselves from the hearing, and can only act as a witness.

Respectfully Submitted,
Senator Jordan Villarreal
College of Arts and Sciences
Senator Alyssa Alvarado
College of Public Administration and Community Service
David Klein
Election Board Member
Senator Misaki Collins
College of Arts and Sciences
Senator Nicolet Nathan
College of Visual Arts and Design
Senator Kelly Phommachanh
College of Arts and Sciences
Senator Natalie Belokin
College of Education
Danielle Sullivan
Election Board Member
In Witness thereof, I hereby certify the Student Senate of the University of North Texas Student Government Association has approved this document and is referred to the office of the President.

_____________________________     ________________________
Speaker of the Senate        Date

**Presidential Action:**
- [ ] Vetoed
- [x] Approved

____________________________     ________________________
President of the Student Government Association      Date

____________________________     ____________________________
Vice President of Student Affairs        Date