

1 First Reading: 4/19/17
2 Pass:
3 Other:
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5 Bill 81-17-B2: Bill to Adopt the Amendments to the S.G.A. Constitution
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7 PURPOSE: For the Student Senate of the Student Government Association of Murray State
8 University to adopt the amendments to the S.G.A. constitution.
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10 WHEREAS: It is the responsibility of our Student Government Association to maintain up-to-
11 date governing documents,
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13 THEREFORE: Be it resolved that the Student Senate of the Student Government Association of
14 Murray State University adopts the attached amendments to the S.G.A. constitution.
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16 AUTHOR: Clinton Combs, Student Regent
17 Amanda Shoemake, Election Ways & Means Chair
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19 SPONSOR: Election Ways & Means

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**CONSTITUTION OF THE
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
OF MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY**

PURPOSE: The purposes of the Student Government Association are to promote the welfare, growth, and development of student life in an environment of academic excellence, to represent the students in all phases of administrative effort, and to provide a means of promoting cooperative efforts for the general welfare of the University community.

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ARTICLE I. COMPOSITION & ELIGIBILITY

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Section 1. The officially organized body governing all students and student organizations at Murray State University shall be the Student Government Association. The Student Government Association (hereinafter S.G.A.) shall be composed of the Student Senate, the Judicial Board, the Campus Activities Board, the Residential College Association, and any other boards as agencies created in accordance with the By-Laws.

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Section 2. Any full-time student and any part-time student (a part time student, for the purposes of this constitution, shall be defined as any student enrolled in 7 to 11 hours for undergraduates or in 5 to 8 hours for graduate students) shall have the privilege of seeking office in any branch of the S.G.A. as prescribed in the By-Laws. Part-time students are not eligible to run for or hold Executive Council positions.

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ARTICLE II. OFFICERS

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Section 1. The officers of S.G.A. shall be President, Executive Vice-President, Vice-President of Administration and Vice-President of Finance of the Student Senate.

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Section 2. The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the S.G.A. and serve as the Student Regent on the university Board of Regents. The qualifications for the office require one to be a full time student at the time of election and thereafter. In addition, the President shall have attained at least Junior Class standing the fall semester following the election. The President's duties and powers shall be to serve as President of the Student Senate and to serve as an ex-officio member of all S.G.A. committees, councils, and boards. The

60 office holder shall maintain these standards, as well as others prescribed in
61 the by-laws, at the time of election and during the term of office.

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63 **Section 3.** The Executive Vice President, whose qualifications shall be the same as those
64 for President, shall serve as Vice President of the Senate and as Chairman of
65 the Campus Activities Board.

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67 **Section 4.** The Vice President of Administration shall serve as the Secretary of the
68 Student Senate and Campus Activities Board. The Vice President of
69 Administration must be a full-time student. The office holder shall maintain
70 these standards, as well as others prescribed in the by-laws, at the time of
71 election and during the term of office.

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73 **Section 5.** The Vice President of Finance shall serve as the Treasurer of the S.G.A. and
74 monitor all funds received from the University. The Vice President of Finance
75 shall be a full-time student. The office holder shall maintain these standards,
76 as well as others prescribed in the by-laws, at the time of election and during
77 the term of office.

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79 **Section 6.** The President of RCA and the Chief Justice shall be considered as “ex-officio”
80 members of Executive Council, they shall work as liaisons for their respective
81 branches, but will not have voting privileges in the Executive Council or
82 Senate.

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84 **ARTICLE III. THE STUDENT SENATE**

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86 **Section 1.** The Student Senate shall be the governing body of S.G.A. and shall have the
87 power to pass resolutions, bills, rules, and regulations necessary for the
88 general welfare of the University and to implement and maintain any
89 programs consistent with S.G.A. purposes.

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91 **Section 2.** The Senate shall be composed of the Executive Council of the S.G.A., three (3)
92 elected senators from each Academic College or School of the University,
93 two (2) freshman senators, eight (8) senators elected at-large, and two (2)
94 senators from each Residential College who, along with the members of the
95 Executive Council shall have the right to vote. The President of the S.G.A.
96 shall only vote in case of a tie.

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98 **Section 3.** There shall be six (6) Director positions, which shall serve as standing
99 committee senate chairs. These positions shall consist of: Election Ways and

100 Means, University Affairs, Public Relations, Government Relations,
101 Multimedia, and Diversity and Inclusion. These positions will not have voting
102 privileges in the Student Senate. The specific duties of these offices are
103 described in the By-laws (Article IV. Section C and Article V and Article VI).
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105 Section 4. In order to be a member of the Senate one shall be a full-time student or a
106 part-time student of the University and shall maintain all qualifications as
107 established in the by-laws at the time of elections and during the term of
108 office.
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110 **Section 5.** The officeholders for "freshman senator" must have completed no more
111 than 30 credit hours, at the time of election.
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113 **Section 6.** The Senate shall be advised by the Student Activities Advisor/ Administrative
114 Assistant to the S.G.A.
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116 **ARTICLE IV. THE JUDICIAL BOARD**
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118 Section 1. The Judicial Board shall have the power to hold hearings and to render
119 decisions and interpretations in cases brought to it by students, faculty, staff,
120 or administrators involving the University Code of Conduct or the
121 Constitution of the S.G.A. It shall have the authority to hear parking/traffic
122 violation appeals.
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124 Section 2. The Judicial Board shall comply with the Kentucky Open Meetings Laws, KRS
125 61.800 et.seq. and shall notify interested parties of their meetings at least
126 one (1) week in advance.
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128 Section 3. The Judicial Board shall be the judicial branch of the S.G.A. and shall be
129 composed of seven (7) Justices and (3) Alternative Associate Justices.
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131 Section 4. The Judicial Board Chief Justice shall serve as Chairperson of the Murray
132 State University Student Judicial Board. The Chief Justice will preside over the
133 Murray State University Student Judicial Board and be responsible for
134 communicating concerns and issues to the S.G.A. Executive Council. The
135 Chief Justice shall serve as a liaison between the S.G.A., Public Safety, and
136 various judicial offices of the university. This position will be selected by the
137 S.G.A. President, then confirmed by the Student Senate; from the members
138 selected to serve on the Murray State University Student Judicial Board. The
139 Student Senate must confirm this position annually. The Chief Justice of the

140 Judicial Board will be responsible for a report to the Student Senate each
141 week or following each specially called Judicial Board hearing.
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143 Section 5. The S.G.A. shall solicit applications for the Judicial Board. The Executive
144 Council shall interview the applicants and the S.G.A. President shall select ten
145 (10) nominees for the seven (7) Associate Justices, (3) Alternate Associate
146 Justices, and from the list of nominations recommending a Chief Justice and
147 an Associate Chief Justice. Upon the nomination from the S.G.A. President,
148 the Senate must confirm the nominees.
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150 Section 6. No member of the Judicial Board shall vote on any question in which he/she
151 has an interest.
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153 Section 7. Structure of the Judicial Board, qualifications of membership, duration of
154 term, specific duties and responsibilities, absences and vacancies, etc. shall
155 be detailed by the By-Laws, otherwise known as the Judicial Board Operating
156 Principles.
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158 ARTICLE V. THE CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD
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160 Section 1. The purpose of the Campus Activities Board shall be to serve and unify the
161 interests of the students, faculty and staff of M.S.U. and the university
162 service region through co-curricular programming and policy
163 recommendations for the operation of the University Center.
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165 Section 2. Funding for the Campus Activities Board shall be through the accounts of the
166 S.G.A.
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168 Section 3. Structure of the Campus Activities Board, qualifications of membership,
169 duration of term, specific duties and responsibilities, absences and vacancies,
170 etc. shall be detailed by the By-Laws in accordance with the Campus
171 Activities Board Operating Principles.
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173 ARTICLE VI. RESIDENTIAL COLLEGE ASSOCIATION
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175 Section 1. The Residential College Association shall serve as the voice of the students of
176 the Residential Colleges. The organization will maintain its own By-laws and
177 function to increase communication between residential students and S.G.A.
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179 Section 2. The membership of the Residential College Association shall consist of the

180 officers, 16 Residential College Senators, the president of each Residential
181 College, at least one representative chosen by election from each college and
182 President of NRHH. Each college shall have one vote.
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184 Section 3. The officers of the Residential College Association shall be the President,
185 Vice-President of Programming, Vice-President of Finance and Records, Vice-
186 President of Recognition, Vice-President of Leadership and Development.
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188 Section 4. The Residential College Association President shall preside over the
189 Residential College Association and shall be responsible for communicating
190 R.C.A. concerns to the S.G.A. Executive Council. The R.C.A. President shall be
191 a full-time student. The R.C.A. President shall be elected during the S.G.A.
192 elections each spring by a student body vote. The office holder shall
193 maintain these standards, as well as others prescribed in the by-laws, at the
194 time of election and during the term of office.
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196 Section 5. The budget for the Residential College Association shall remain based upon a
197 fee levied on students who live within the Residential Colleges.
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199 Section 6. The individual Residential College Councils shall maintain their autonomy in
200 constitution and in their rights to create policy specific to their Residential
201 Colleges.
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203 ARTICLE VII. VOTING AND CONSTITUENCIES
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205 Section 1. Any student enrolled in a college shall have the privilege of voting for Senate
206 positions representing that college, all S.G.A. officer positions, at-large
207 Senate positions. Any student with 30 credit hours or less may have the
208 privilege of voting for the "freshman senators."
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210 Section 2. The primary constituency of S.G.A. officers, at-large Senators and students on
211 the Campus Activities Board shall be all students in the university. The
212 primary constituency of a Senator representing a university or residential
213 college or school shall be students in that college. The primary constituency
214 of the "freshman senators" shall be the freshman class.
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216 ARTICLE VIII. REMOVAL FROM OFFICE
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218 Section 1. The Student Senate or the Judicial Board shall have the power to remove
219 from office any member of its respective body for cause by a two-thirds (2/3)

220 majority vote.

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222 Section 2. Senators or Executive Officers of the S.G.A. can be recalled on the petition of
223 twenty-five percent (25%) of their respective constituencies, subject to a
224 majority vote of such constituency.
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226 ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS AND BYLAWS

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228 Section 1. The Student Senate shall have the power to enact by-laws to implement the
229 provisions of this Constitution.
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231 Section 2. Any proposed changes in the By-laws shall be endorsed by one-fifth (1/5) of
232 the Senators, and shall require approval by two-thirds (2/3) of the
233 membership of the Senate.
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235 Section 3. Amendments to this constitution can be proposed by a three-fourths (3/4)
236 majority vote of the Student Senate or by a petition signed by 25% of the
237 total Student Body. Such amendments shall be ratified by a plurality vote of
238 the student electorate subject to approval of the M.S.U. Board of Regents.
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240 ARTICLE X. RATIFICATION

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242 Section 1. This Constitution shall be ratified by a majority of those voting, subject to
243 final approval of the Murray State University Board of Regents.