

Constitutional Amendment C-01-19

The University of Alabama

23rd Student Senate

**A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO PUBLISH AND MAINTAIN SGA
ELECTIONS RESULTS ON THE SGA WEBSITE**

Author: Senator Bennett McGehee

Co-Sponsors: Senator John Martin Weed, Senator Marquis Hollingsworth, Senator Chad Heatley, Senator Colby Murray, Senator Devon Longstreet, Senator Brooks Payne, Senator Andrew Townsend

Endorsements: President Price McGiffert, Vice President of Student Affairs Clay Martinson, Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Amber Scales, Webmaster Olivia Wiggins

Section 1: Findings

This amendment aims to publish and maintain all SGA elections and constitutional referenda results on the SGA website in perpetuity. SGA is currently in possession of some recent elections results as well, which will be added to the website shortly. The SGA Webmaster will be charged with preserving the current elections results and adding new results each time a student vote occurs. There are also a few spelling and syntax corrections to Article VIII (Elections), Section 2 (Voting) of the Constitution.

Section 2: Revisions and Additions

Additions are marked in red and struck words are crossed through

ARTICLE VIII – ELECTIONS

Section 2: Voting.

- A. Any Student currently enrolled at The University of Alabama may vote in SGA elections.
- B. Students may ~~ease~~ **cast** one vote for the Senate in their primary college of enrollment.
Students may vote once for each elected executive official.
- C. All SGA elections shall be conducted by secret ballot, via the voting portal on myBama.
- D. Write-in votes shall be permitted in any SGA election.
- E. Absentee ballots shall not be permitted in any SGA election.
- F. Candidates for any executive **office** shall be elected by a majority of votes cast.

1. A majority of votes cast is equal to fifty percent of the votes cast plus one additional
 2. vote.
 3. In the event that candidates for any executive office fail to receive a majority of votes cast, a run-off election shall be conducted no sooner than two days following the election, but not later than ten full academic days after the election, for the two candidates that receive the largest percentage of votes cast.
- G. Candidates for Senate in each school or college shall be ranked in order of votes received from highest to lowest.
1. Based upon this ranking, candidates for Senate receiving the most votes shall be elected to represent their school or college.
 2. The number ~~those~~ **chosen** shall be equal to the apportioned senate seats for each school or college as defined in Article III, Section 2 of this Constitution.
 3. In the event of a tie in the number of votes received by candidates for Senate seats that results in a school or college surpassing the apportioned seats for that school or college, a tie will be broken by a run-off election that shall be on a date determined by the Student Elections Board.
- H. Any student wishing to contest the results of a SGA election shall file a petition in writing with the Executive Secretary of the SGA within three full class days after the elections results are available.
1. The Executive Secretary must notify the Student Judicial Board and the Student Elections Board within two full class days that a petition contesting the results of a SGA has been filed.
 2. The hearing must be conducted by the Student Elections Board. If the student believes they have grounds to appeal the Student Elections Board decision, they may file an appeal of the decision with the Student Judicial Board.
 3. The following shall be grounds for contesting election results:
 - a. Misconduct, fraud, or irregularity by any election official sufficient to change or place in doubt the result of a SGA election;
 - b. Ineligibility of any person ~~election~~ **elected** to the office in dispute;
 - c. Receipt of illegal votes or rejection of legal votes in an amount sufficient to change or place in doubt the result of a SGA election.
 - d. An error in the counting of votes or in the declaration of the result of an election sufficient to change or place in doubt the result of a SGA election;

- e. Any other cause sufficient to change or place in doubt the result of a SGA election
- I. All SGA elections results will be published, preserved, and updated on the SGA website.
 - 1. All student elections and constitutional amendment referenda results are to be published on the website by the SGA Webmaster once they are verified.
 - 2. Elections results must report votes cast for any candidate or write-in, tabulated by offices being elected.
 - 3. Constitutional amendment referenda results must report vote counts for the amendment.

Section 3: Ratification

This amendment will become law upon an affirmative vote from two thirds (2/3rds) of the SGA Senate and referendum of the student body.

Section 4: Legitimacy and Awareness

This amendment, if passed in the Senate by the appropriate margins, will be posted at least two (2) weeks in advance of the Spring Elections on the SGA website for students to review.