



Gonzaga Student Body Association

*Senate*

**Bill:** SBF111503

**Sponsor:** Sarah Turner, Senior Senator

**Title:** Modifications to elections code

**Purpose:** Various amendments to Articles XXXI - XXXV, the Elections Code of the GSBA Bylaws, will remove current ambiguity between similar positions by creating consistency and fairness for any potential candidates of GSBA.

**Text:** Section 1. Article XXXV Section 8, subsection E of the Election Code shall be repealed, and replaced with a new section to read:

**"Candidates will receive a new expense limit equal to fifty percent (50%) of the original allotment for general elections, not to exceed the original allotment in general elections. If the combined ticket President and Vice-president spend zero dollars during the general election, zero dollars are added back during run-off. If they spend all two hundred (\$200), one hundred (\$100) is re-allocated for run-off. An expenditure report must be submitted to the Commission, regardless of expenditure, when the polls close. Other expenditure rules and regulations, as per Article XXXI, Section 4, must be followed.**

Section 2. Article XXXIII Section 4, subsection J of the Election Code shall be amended to read:

“Students who have not met the qualifications of nomination within this section and have received votes in a regular election shall be considered write-in candidates, provided they are eligible to be candidates as defined in Section C. They shall be bound by all campaign rules pursuant to Article IV of this Code; however, they will not be required to attend any mandatory meetings or meet filing

deadlines. **Write-in candidates wishing to participate in campaign activities must pay a filing deposit before doing so per Article XXXIV, Section 3: B.** No write-in candidate shall be listed on any ballot unless warranted based upon returns requiring a run-off election. "

Section 3. Article XXXV Section 6, subsection E of the Elections Code shall be amended to read:

"Ballots which have been marked to reasonably indicate a particular candidate for a specific office shall be counted for that office. In the case of write-in candidates, the student's first and last name must be present to be counted as a vote. **All GSBA write-in candidates must receive a minimum of ten (10) votes to be declared a winner for the position in which he or she is running.**"

Section 4. Article XXXIII Section 4, subsection K of the Election Code shall be amended to read:

"In order to qualify for the run-off ballot, a write in candidate must complete an election-filing packet, pay a filing deposit, and obtain the appropriate number of signatures from eligible GSBA members as stipulated in Section 4, Subsection E of this Article within three days of the declaration of the run-off election"

Section 5. Article XXXV Section 7, subsection A of the Election Code shall be amended to read:

"A candidate for an Executive or Class Officer position shall be proclaimed the winner when he or she has received a **plurality** of votes cast for that office."

Section 6. Article XXXV Section 7, subsection B of the Election Code shall be amended to read:

"If no candidate **for an Executive Officer** has the required number of votes, there shall be a run-off election between the two (2) candidates receiving the most votes."

Section 7. Article XXXV Section 7, subsection C of the Election Code shall be amended to read:

**"Candidates for the Student Senate receiving a plurality of the votes shall be declared winners for the number of positions available (ex. For the four available Senator positions per each class, the top four candidates will be elected to the positions as decided by the elections process."**

Section 8. Article XXXV Section 8, subsection D of the Election Code shall be amended to read:

"A write-in candidate who has received enough votes in the general election shall be placed on the run-off ballot after submitting the requisite petitions bearing one hundred (100) signatures for Executive Officers within three academic days of the declaration of notification following the general election unless the position was unopposed."

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Speaker of the Senate

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Parliamentarian

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President