## UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

## Label: SGAB-55012

Date introduced: October 31st, 2018

Author(s): Chief Election Commissioner Harricharran, President Barrett Sponsor(s): Pro-Temp Lorine, Chair Bryan, Chair Ajrami, Vice-Char Akhtar, Vice-Chair Veeramachaneni, Senator Marvel, Senator Chang, Senator White, Senator Berger, Senator Jeffrey, Senator Pen, Senator Seernani, Senator Lamonte, Senator Pham, Senator Akil Committee: Internal Affairs Draft: Final

## Election Code Amendment: Pre-Campaigning

Whereas, the current Student Government Association Election Code does not address what should happen in the event that the Election Code is violated before the campaigning period;

Whereas, there is no procedure in place for how to enforce penalties placed against those that break the Election Code before the campaigning period.

Therefore, be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association of the University of Houston:

That Article IV, Section 1, Clause 1 will be amended to read "Campaigning is defined as the intentional direct or indirect solicitation of votes, the purposeful bolstering of one's personal brand and/or name, and/or any form of personal, group, or mass advertising initiated by a known and/or prospective candidate or campaign staff member with the purpose of affecting the election outcome.";

Be it further enacted, that Article 7, Section 1 will add the following Clause: "Clause 11. In the case that a known and/or prospective candidate, or campaign staff, is found to have violated the Election Code before the campaign period has begun, any penalties decided upon by the Attorney General will be put into effect after the campaign period begins, with the Attorney General's discretion on the exact time (for example, if a student is found to be posting campaigning materials such as flyers in September, and the Attorney General decides to suspend their campaign for twentyfour (24) hours, the Attorney General must ban them from campaigning at any twenty-four (24) hour interval within and after the start of the campaign period).";

Be it further enacted, Article IV, Section 1, Clause 6 be amended to read "Campaigning does not include any actions taken by known and/or prospective candidate, campaign staff, or party to organize or recruit on a peer to peer basis before the close of the filing deadline. Party meetings are permitted, but a candidate or party staff member may not, through any means, publicly or broadly recruit candidates. This includes, but is not limited to: mass advertising, listservs, and public announcements of party recruitment."

APPROVED

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Cameron Barrett Student Government President Date of President's Approval: <u>11/14/14</u>

Kim-Briana Lorine Pro-Tempore and Acting-Speaker of Senate Date of Senate Approval: <u><u><u>114/2618</u></u></u>