Bill Status: Passed on Second Reading



# University of Colorado Student Government Legislative Council

February 28, 2019

90 LCB 01 - Election Code Revisions

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# A Bill to Revise the Election Code

## **Bill History**

The CUSG Election Commissioner has a Constitutional duty and power to design and implement an Election Code governing CU Student Government Elections. In the furtherance of this responsibility, this bill has been written as the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Student Government has the power to ratify any such changes the Commissioner proposes to serve as a check on the Election Commissioner's power to design and implement the code.

The Election Code is one of the most important governing documents that CU Student Government follows. This document fundamentally organizes and governs how the

individuals who run our budgets, programs, and the changes to our campus become a part of CUSG.

#### **Bill Summary**

This bill outlines changes and adaptations to the election code that include the necessary revisions for the Spring Election of 2019. With the changes this bill introduces, the code can better provide an adequate election for the Tri-Executive and Representative at Large positions.

Whereas, CU Student Government is committed to fair, open, and efficient elections;

Whereas, the revisions to the election code from the previous election are necessary to improve the next one;

Whereas, adequate time to properly review and edit the election code is necessary;

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Boulder Student Government, THAT:

Section 1: Section 103(c) of the CUSG Election Code shall be struck:

"A biannual review of the Election Code shall be completed by the Election Commissioner no later than 4 weeks after the completion of the fall and spring election cycles."

Section 2: Section 203(a)(1) of the CUSG Election Code shall be amended to read:

"Assistant Election Commissioners shall not be members of the Executive Branch, Legislative Branch, or the Appellate Court."

Section 3: Section 203(d) of the CUSG Election Code shall be amended to read:

"Assistant Election Commissioner(s) may be removed by written decision of both the Election Commissioner and CUSG Office Manager subject to appeal by the Assistant Election Commissioner to Legislative Council."

**Section 4:** The following clause shall be added to section 302 of the CUSG Election Code:

"(d) The Election Commissioner is responsible for meeting with the Legislative Council President and Appellate Court Chief Justice to determine an appropriate timeline for the elections. Said timeline is to be completed no later than two weeks before campaign packets become available."

Section 5: Section 304(a)(2) of the CUSG Election Code shall be amended to read:

"A means for a voter to vote for write-in candidates, if any are declared by the deadline set in this code."

Section 6: Section 402(a) of the CUSG Election Code shall be amended to read:

"Campaign packets, consisting of candidacy petition, appropriate session chart, FERPA Agreement, preliminary election Code, CU Student Government Appellate Court Bylaws, and Campus Use of University Facilities Policy (CUUF), will be made available at least seven weeks prior to the week of election."

Section 7: Section 402(d)(4) of the CUSG Election Code shall be amended to read:

"Any applicant may appeal the determination of valid signatures on their petition. Upon appeal an unverified signature will be selected and the verification process will be repeated, a candidate may only appeal this determination twice."

Section 8: Section 403(a) of the CUSG Election Code shall be amended to read:

"Any eligible student may be declared a write-in candidate if they submit a declaration stating their intent to be a write-in candidate by 5:00p.m. on the Wednesday four weeks prior to the election."

Section 9: Section 504(a) of the CUSG Election Code shall be amended to read:

"The students of the University of Colorado Boulder may petition to have a bill, resolution, or Constitutional Amendment placed upon the ballot. The petition must be completed and turned into the CU Student Government Election Commissioner no later than two weeks before the first day of the election"

Section 10: Section 505(d) of the CUSG Election Code shall be amended to read:

"All petitions to place a measure on the ballot must be submitted by no later than two weeks before the first day of the election"

Section 11: Section 703(e)(ii) of the CUSG Election Code shall be amended to read:

"Within or on the grounds of any University-operated residence hall or University-owned residences, unless the candidate campaigning is a resident of the hall, and has explicit written confirmation from the Hall Director. Said confirmation is to be validated by the Election Commissioner."

Section 12: Section 704(h) of the CUSG Election code shall be amended to read:

"Using the intellectual property of another person or organization to campaign, without the permission of the rightful owner. Candidates are required to obtain permission in writing. Fillings for this violation can only be brought by the rightful owner."

Section 13: Section 704(j) of the CUSG Election Code shall be amended to read:

"Failure to disclose the names and contact information of a ticket/candidates' volunteers to the Election Commissioner prior to a time set forth by the Election Commissioner. The Election Commissioner must give a weeks notice to tickets/candidates before said deadline."

Section 14: Section 704(j)(i) of the CUSG Election Code shall be amended to read:

"In the event a person begins volunteering after the deadline set forth by the Election Commissioner, the ticket/candidate must inform the Election Commissioner via email of said volunteer within twenty-four hours in order to avoid a violation of this infraction."

Section 15: Section 802(b) of the CUSG Election Code shall be amended to read:

"The report shall provide the Ticket name (if applicable), candidate's name, office(s) sought, a ledger for campaign contributions, and a ledger for campaign expenditures. The expenditure report must be submitted via email to the Election Commission, and a physical copy must be furnished as well to the CUSG Office Manager or Election Commission on the soonest business day after the election by 5:00pm."

Section 16: Section 1003(a) of the CUSG Election Code shall be amended to read:

"The Election Commissioner will retain the original campaign contribution and expenditure report and prepare copies that will be made available to the public, via the CUSG website, 24 hours following the receival of the final campaign expenditure report."

**Section 17:** The following clause shall be added to section 1005 of the CUSG Election Code:

"(d) In the event that the Election Commissioner deems necessary, a second Infraction Tribunal may take place, which is to be arranged by the Election Commissioner. All participants shall be notified of the time and location at least 48 hours in advance, via email. In this event, the Infraction Tribunal decisions must be released at most 48 hours after the conclusion of the second Tribunal."

**Section 18:** This Bill shall take effect upon passage by the Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signatures of two Tri-Executives or the lapse of six days without actions by the Tri-Executives.

### **Vote Count:**

3/6/2019 3/7/2019 Moved to Second Reading Passed on Second Reading

15-0-0 15-0-1

Josh Nev

Legislative Council President

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Student Body President

David Kidd

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