

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 7-039

**A RESOLUTION TO DEFINE AND REGULATE ENDORSEMENTS IN CSG
ELECTIONS**

WHEREAS, Endorsements have proven to be problematic in previous CSG elections;

AND

WHEREAS, CSG has a legitimate purpose in regulating the nature and use of
endorsements in its elections within the constraints of the 1st Amendment;

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that Article VI of the CSG Compiled Code be modified to strike §F(3)(b)
and §F(3)(e), and add a new section §F(3)(f) of which full text appears as
Appendix I to this Resolution. As per the Appendix, the text of §F(3)(b)
shall appear as §F(3)(f)(iv) within the appended section.

Authors

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Attest

Alex Contis, LSA
Speaker of the Assembly

Isabel Baer, LSA
Vice Speaker of the Assembly

President's Approval

Anushka Sarkar

Presented to the Assembly for *First Reads* on _____
Presented to the Assembly for *Second Reads* on _____

Yes: _____ No: _____ Abs: _____ Date: _____

Signature Necessary: _____ Signature Received By _____: _____



Appendix I

f. Endorsements

- i. Definition** For the purposes of this section, “endorsement” shall refer to any photographic, audio, or video likeness or statement in which a non-candidate person or entity is identified with a statement of support in the election for a candidate, party, or ballot initiative, excepting oral statements of support made in person; furthermore,
 - a.** For publicly recognizable figures, a name need not be present for establishment of positive identification and implied endorsement of a candidate or party;
 - b.** For all other individuals or entities, establishment of identification of endorsement shall require the name of the endorsing individual or entity;
- ii. Affidavit of Endorsement.** Any candidate or party disseminating or communicating an endorsement to the voting student population shall file an affidavit of endorsement with the Elections Director prior to the release of said endorsement. This affidavit shall consist of a form including both the effective date of endorsement; and the signature of the individual, or individual(s) qualified to sign on behalf of the entity (for student organizations, at minimum two authorized signers), making the endorsement.
 - a.** The Elections Director shall make endorsement affidavit forms available at the candidates’ meeting and on the candidate information website.
- iii. Unauthorized Endorsements.** “Unauthorized endorsements” shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a.** Endorsements for which an affidavit of endorsement has not been properly submitted to the Elections Director, excepting those retaining the original version produced by their individual or entity and remaining unaltered and directly sourced;
 - b.** Misleading or false endorsements such as those not actually intended or made by the individual or entity to whom the implied endorsement is attributed;
 - c.** Endorsements for which the candidate or party is unaffiliated with the endorser, or acts outside of the scope of coordination thereof;
- iv. CSG Endorsements.** No person or entity within CSG shall, in their official capacity for CSG, endorse any candidate or party. Officials may make endorsements provided that they are in an individual capacity, with the exception that elections staff may not make endorsements under any circumstances. CSG endorsements as defined in this section shall be considered unauthorized endorsements.
- v. Withdrawn Endorsements.** Candidates and parties shall not continue to advertise or disseminate endorsements which have been withdrawn by the endorser by appropriate notice, and shall make reasonable best efforts to cease advertisement or dissemination within 24 hours of appropriate notice of a withdrawal of endorsement;
- vi. Penalty.** Candidates and parties shall be guilty of a single violation for each distinct medium, statement, or likeness (photographic, audio, or video) in which an unauthorized or withdrawn endorsement is disseminated. Use of email or other duplicated campaign material to advertise or disseminate unauthorized or withdrawn endorsements shall constitute a single violation for each 50 email recipients or 50 units of a duplicated

campaign material. Each such violation shall result in a maximum penalty of 1-2 demerits, with a maximum total of 5 demerits for one endorsement.

