

A BILL OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY SENATE AMENDING TITLE V SECTION 113 OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY CODE, WHICH CURRENTLY READS:

**Section 113. Campaigning Rules for General Elections.**

- A) This Section shall apply to all General Elections except Campus Senate, Campus Favorites and Senior Class Officer Elections.
- B) For the purposes of this Section, “campaigning” shall be defined as any act by a candidate or his or her supporters that is intended to present that person to the general public as a candidate or nominee.
- C) The “general public” shall be defined as two or more electors, as set forth in the ASB Constitution Art. II, §1.
- D) For the purposes of this Section, “campaign material” shall be defined as any material, apparatus, or other property used by a candidate or nominee for the purpose of campaigning as defined by this Section. All campaign material shall include the name of the candidate or sponsoring group, and that person or group shall be identified as such. Any infringement upon this Item shall be subject to major violation.
- E) No candidate or nominee, or his or her respective agents, may indulge in campaigning prior to the beginning of the open campaigning period as set forth in this Title.
- F) Any meetings regarding the nature of the campaign before the open campaigning period shall be limited to forty (40) people. This shall serve as a major violation and grounds for possible disqualification.
- G) Email shall be considered word of mouth campaigning. Sending email addressed to more than one (1) person before the start of the campaign period is prohibited.
- H) The use of listservs or the sending of unsolicited emails to persons unknown to the sender for the purpose of campaigning is prohibited. Any violation of this subsection shall be considered a major violation.
- I) No campaign material may be displayed publicly in an academic building except in those areas designated by the building mayor. No more than one (1) campaign flyer per candidate may be placed at these designated areas. Any violation of this subsection shall constitute an intermediate violation.
- J) In non-academic areas, no more than two (2) campaign advertisements may be posted on bulletin boards or other regular posting areas. This shall include the large bulletin board on

the second floor of the Union. Any violation of this subsection shall constitute a minor violation.

- K) Posted campaign materials shall not exceed eight-and-one-half-by-eleven (8 ½ x 11) inches in size. Any violation of this subsection shall constitute an intermediate violation.
- L) Each candidate or nominee may have only one (1) banner displayed at a time. No banners shall be displayed in or on the Student Union Building. A banner shall be defined as any campaign material larger than eight-and-one-half-by-eleven (8 ½ x 11) inches, excluding t-shirts. Any violation of this subsection shall constitute a major violation.
- M) No hand-held signs or posters of any kind shall be permitted near the polls on Election Day. Any violation of this subsection shall constitute a major violation.
- N) Campaign cards, stickers, or buttons for candidates' supporters to wear shall not exceed five-by-seven (5 x 7) inches. Any violation of this subsection shall constitute a major violation.
- O) No campaigning shall occur in an academic classroom during a class period, except students may wear cards, buttons, or stickers of a candidate. Any violations shall constitute a major violation.
- P) No campaigning or campaign material may be handed out or displayed on the steps or porches of the Student Union. Any violations of this subsection shall be considered an intermediate violation.
- Q) No candidate or his or her representatives shall offer food as part of the campaigning process. Free giveaways of promotional campaign items, with the exception of food, is permitted, given that each item has a value of no greater than \$1 per unit. All items used as a giveaway must be accounted for in the candidate's expense voucher. Any violation of this subsection shall serve as a major violation and grounds for possible disqualification.
- R) Online social media may be used for the purposes of campaigning and shall be considered word of mouth campaigning. The Attorney General and the Department of Justice, preceding the certification meeting of the Fall or Spring General Elections, shall determine regulations regarding all online social media. These regulations shall be offered to candidates at the time of the certification meeting and shall stand for the remainder of that election. Any violation of this subsection shall result in a major violation and grounds for possible disqualification.
- S) No one candidate, campaign organization, or student in general may campaign within fifty (50) feet of the polls. Any violation of this subsection shall result in a minor violation.
- T) Campaigning from vehicles is allowed on University grounds, and within the limits of the City of Oxford and Lafayette county to the extent such campaigning does not conflict with local or state law.

- U) No candidate or his or her campaign representative shall tear down, mutilate, remove, or otherwise encroach upon another candidate's campaign materials. Any violation of this subsection shall be considered a major violation and grounds for possible disqualification.
- V) No student shall infringe upon the right to a private ballot as provided for in this Title.
- W) Each candidate shall be responsible at law for the nature and legality of his or her campaign, campaign materials, and demonstrations.
- X) Any attempt by a candidate or campaign representative to coerce, bribe, intimidate, or force a person to vote shall result in immediate disqualification.
- Y) Each candidate shall remove his or her campaign material from public areas of the campus within such time specified by the Deputy Attorney General of Elections. The deadline shall not be less than forty-eight (48) hours and those who violate the set deadline will be subject to a fine of twenty-five (25) dollars each day after the deadline.

TO READ:

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- election. Any violation of this subsection shall result in a major violation and grounds for possible disqualification.
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  - T) Campaigning from vehicles is allowed on University grounds, and within the limits of the City of Oxford and Lafayette County to the extent such campaigning does not conflict with local or state law.
  - U) No candidate or his or her campaign representative shall tear down, mutilate, remove, or otherwise encroach upon another candidate's campaign materials. Any violation of this subsection shall be considered a major violation and grounds for possible disqualification.
  - V) No student shall infringe upon the right to a private ballot as provided for in this Title.
  - W) Each candidate shall be responsible at law for the nature and legality of his or her campaign, campaign materials, and demonstrations.
  - X) Any attempt by a candidate or campaign representative to coerce, bribe, intimidate, or force a person to vote shall result in immediate disqualification.
  - Y) Each candidate shall remove his or her campaign material from public areas of the campus within such time specified by the Deputy Attorney General of Elections. The deadline shall not be less than forty-eight (48) hours and those who violate the set deadline will be subject to a fine of twenty-five (25) dollars each day after the deadline.
  - Z) Public campaigning on the Tuesday of Election Day and, if necessary, the Thursday of the Runoff election will be limited to the Union Plaza, the Circle, and in front of Fulton Chapel. Campaigning may not occur within thirty (30) feet of the Union steps or on any of the walkways outside of the Circle. Campaigners may not obstruct any crosswalk, walkway, or in any other way inhibit an established path used regularly by students and faculty. Any violations of this subsection shall be considered an intermediate violation.
- AA) At each of the areas listed in § 113 (Z) the number of campaigners shall be limited as follows for the individual candidates. Any violations of this subsection shall be considered an intermediate violation.
- a) Campaigners at the Union shall be limited to no more than fifteen (15) per candidate at any given period of time during the established times listed in § 113 (Z)
  - b) Campaigners at the Circle shall be limited to no more than ten (10) per candidate at any given period of time during the established times listed in § 113 (Z)

c) Campaigners in front of Fulton Chapel shall be limited to no more than five (5) per candidate at any given period of time during the established times listen in § 113(Z)

BB) At the start of the campaign period, each candidate will be issued up to thirty (30) “Common Name Badges” by the Attorney General and Department of Justice, to be distributed to campaigners in each designated campaign zone. These badges must be worn at all times while campaigners are actively promoting a candidate in a campaign zone and Resident Hall. These badges are non-transferrable between candidates, but do not have to be worn by the same campaigner, granted they represent the same candidate. Any violations of this subsection shall be considered an intermediate violation.

a) Candidates themselves are not required to wear a badge or count towards the limited number of campaigners per designated campaign zone.

b) Each candidate will also be issued a badge designated for a “campaign manager” or a representative of the campaign that is permitted to rotate amongst the campaign locations freely, given they are wearing the badge designated for this purpose

WHEREAS, this bill shall be referred to as the Campus Election Procedures Revision Act of 2016;

WHEREAS, the number of campaigners in previous elections has been overwhelming to members of the Ole Miss family including students and faculty;

WHEREAS, the Dean of Students office has previously voiced concern over noise and litter resulting from campaigners;

WHEREAS, due to limited space for campaigning, campaigners often inadvertently obstruct walkways;

WHEREAS, limiting the number of campaigners will remove an artificial barrier which prevents those without a large campaign team from running in elections;

WHEREAS, limiting the number of campaigners allows election monitors to focus on serious violations versus policing disengaged campaigners.

WHEREAS, this bill provides a mechanism for enforcement that was lacking in the Campus Election Procedures Revision Act of 2013;

WHEREAS, this mechanism was successful during a trial run in the Spring 2015 ASB elections during which there were no complaints or violations;

WHEREAS, this bill does not prohibit the rights of any student enrolled at the University of Mississippi, as the primary function and mission of the University of Mississippi is academics;  
AND,

WHEREAS, this mechanism promotes and stresses the belief that campaigns should focus on a candidate's platform;

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED THAT THE ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY SENATE AMENDS TITLE V SECTION 113 OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENT BODY CODE.

<u>Governmental Operations</u>	<u>Blake Hembree</u>	<u>02/16/2016</u>
Committee	Committee Chair	Date
<u>02/16/2016</u>	<u>passed</u>	<u>ahj</u>
Date of Introduction	Action of Student Senate	Clerk Initials

Approval of Associated Student Body Elected Administration:

<u>John Brahan</u>	<u>2/23/16</u>	<u>Rod Bridges</u>	<u>2/22/16</u>
John Brahan ASB Vice President	Date	Rod Bridges ASB President	Date

Acknowledgement of Campus Administration:

<u>Melinda J. Sutton</u>	<u>Brandi Hephner LaBanc</u>
Melinda J. Sutton, Ph.D. Dean of Students	Brandi Hephner LaBanc, Ed.D. Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
<u>Jeffrey S. Vitter</u>	
Jeffrey S. Vitter, Ph.D. Chancellor	