UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

Label: SGAB-57001

Date introduced: April 15th, 2020 Author(s): Speaker Cheng Sponsor(s): Senator García Committee: Internal Affairs Draft: Final

57th Student Government Association Standing Rules

Whereas, Robert's Rules of Order allows for a new set of rules to be proposed along with The Constitution and Bylaws, called the Standing Rules; and

Whereas, The Standing Rules will be established as a set of laws that the Student Government Association will follow once passed; and

Whereas, The Standing Rules will become ineffective at the last Senate meeting of the 57th Administration, and

Whereas, The Standing Rules will be followed in the Senate Meetings, and if there are any infractions to the rules, the Speaker of the Senate can stop discussion in the Senate, now, therefore, be it

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

That the Standing Rules will be a Governing Document that will be followed in the Student Government Association Senate Meetings.

asmine Khademakbari

Sasmine Khademakbari Student Government President Date of President's Approval: <u>5/22/2020</u>

Julian Cheng Julian Cheng

Julian Cheng Speaker of the Senate Date of Senate Approval: 5/22/2020

57th Administration Student Government Association Standing Rules

3

Standing Rules

Definitions:

<u>Precedence</u> – The presiding officer must choose legislators to speak based on those who have spoken the least (or not at all).

<u>Recency</u> – The presiding officer must choose legislators to speak based on who has spoken last (or not at all).

<u>Geography</u> – The presiding officer must choose legislators to speak based on whom they see raise their placards first when precedence and recency are not established.

Prefacing – When members of the Senate, Executive, or Judicial Branches reference, without evidence, a specific incident or identifiers such as names, or exact places regarding specific occurrences, then the presiding officer will have the ability to strike the statement or question down so long as the reference is deemed by the presiding officer as:

- (1) unfairly damaging to the presenter; and
- (2) outside the scope of topic at hand.

Precedence and Recency are reset at the beginning of each meeting.

If the Senate disagrees with the decision of the presiding officer, the Senate can call for a "consideration to reconsider the previous motion" which would require a majority vote of present legislators to override the presiding officer's decision.

Debate

- Once 30 minutes of moderated caucus has passed for a single item, one of three motions must be called:
 - 1. Move to previous question.
 - 2. Table for later in the session.
 - 3. Table for another session.
- The presiding officer must choose legislators, Executive and Judicial members to speak based off of precedence and recency. If precedence and recency are not established, the presiding officer utilizes geography to select legislators to speak.

Questioning

- Question Period for legislation and appointees will be 3 minutes long.
- The presiding officer must choose legislators wishing to ask questions based on precedence and recency. If precedence and recency are not established, the presiding officer utilizes geography to select legislators wishing to ask questions.
- Once an appointee leaves the chamber, that nominee can only be called back for further questioning one time

Speaking time

• People proposing legislation will be allotted ten minutes to speak

Nominees will have 5 minutes to speak. However, if a nominee is appointed for multiple positions, they will have an additional 3 minutes for each of their appointments.