CODE CHANGES 2018:
Election Endorsements by Executives
(as amended at the February 14
Council meeting)

TO: Council
FROM: Elections Committee
February 2018

Amendment to prohibit Executives from publicly endorsing candidates and from publicly assisting in campaigns.

Additions are indicated by **bold italics.** Deletions are indicated by striking through (**like this**).

SECTION IX A: ELECTORAL PROCEDURES

Article 2. Nomination and Campaign Regulations

... 15. Pursuant to the rules against slates in paragraphs 11 through 14 above, candidates may not endorse other candidates, either in public or in private, and also may not help other candidates in any way, including but not limited to helping with the preparation of graphics or other campaign materials.

16. **Pursuant to the rules against slates in paragraphs 11 through 14 above, current members of the Executive may not publicly endorse candidates other than themselves and also may not publicly help such candidates in any way. If a public endorsement is made by a member of the Executive, the candidate endorsed must reject the endorsement in accordance with the rules in paragraph 17 below.**

[and renumber]

16.

17. Third Party Endorsements

(a) Candidates must publicly declare their acceptance or rejection of third party endorsements by media outlets and any other group or individual.

(b) These acceptances and rejections shall be posted by the Elections Committee. This posting by the Elections Committee shall constitute the public declaration required of candidates as far as rejections are concerned. Candidates must themselves post the names of all groups or individuals whose endorsements they accept.

(c) When a third party endorsement is made, candidates must notify the Elections Committee of their acceptance or rejection within twenty-four (24) hours. However,
the Elections Committee may at its discretion extend this period in exceptional circumstances. If the Elections Committee discovers an endorsement unknown to a candidate, it shall inform that candidate, who shall then have twenty-four (24) hours to accept it or reject it; the Elections Committee may at its discretion extend this period in exceptional circumstances.

(d) Candidates who accept a third party endorsement must state whether that third party will be solely an endorser or also a financial supporter.

(e) Any spending by a financial supporter on campaign materials explicitly endorsing a candidate shall be counted as part of that candidate’s expenses when determining whether the candidate remained within the campaign spending limits, but the candidate shall not be eligible for reimbursement for such expenses. The term “campaign materials” in this provision does not include the publication of written endorsements by media outlets.

(f) If a third party endorser who has not been accepted as a financial supporter begins spending money on campaign materials explicitly endorsing a candidate, that candidate may notify the Elections Committee that they no longer accept the endorsement, at which point the Elections Committee shall determine how much of the spending will be counted as part of that candidate’s expenses. If the candidate decides to continue accepting the endorsement, the third party shall be considered a financial supporter, and the rules in paragraph (e) shall apply.