

STUDENT SENATE BILL 2025-1158

TITLE: Censure, Expulsion, and Officer Removal Procedure Reform - RULES AND PROCEDURES REVISION

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**RULE XIII
CENSURE, EXPULSION, AND OFFICER REMOVAL
(AMENDED: 2020-1064, 2021-104, 2022-126)**

1. Censure:
 - a. Any Senator may request the censure of another Senator by filing a petition for censure in the form of a written resolution with the Rules and Ethics Committee.
 - i. Censure will be ~~the~~ a formal statement of disapproval in the form of a resolution that serves as an official warning of the Senate to refrain from similar actions in the future.
 - ii. Senators may be censured for repeatedly disrupting the business of the Senate, inappropriate actions during the discharge of statutorily mandated duties, or for violations of Student Body Law.
 - iii. The term "censure" does not have to appear in the resolution. A censure does not remove a senator from office nor does it deny to a senator his or her rights or privileges.
 - iv. The Senate may only hear a censure on the Senate floor if the Rules and Ethics Committee recommends it be heard.
 - b. Upon receiving a petition for censure, the Rules and Ethics Committee ~~will~~ has a maximum of two weeks to investigate and hear the charges as outlined in Rule ~~XII §5(e)~~ XI §4(b). The Rules and Ethics Committee may choose to not investigate a petition for censure that is substantially similar to a petition that has already been heard. A petition calling for censure of another Senator must have at least twenty (20) Senators' signatures of support.
 - c. ~~The Rules and Ethics Committee will ensure that any evidence requested by the committee~~ Any evidence from the petitioner(s) and respondent(s) must be given to them-submitted to the Rules and Ethics Committee email at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.
 - d. Should a member of the Rules and Ethics Committee be the subject of the petition, they will recuse themselves before any investigation.

- e. If the Rules and Ethics Committee recommends censure to the Senate, the Senator subject to censure will be informed by the Rules and Ethics Committee no later than ~~three (3)~~ five (5) days before the meeting of the Senate at which the resolution for censure will be heard.
 - i. The Senate shall hear the censure at the next regular meeting following the Rules and Ethics Committee's recommendation, provided that the Senator in question has received at least five (5) days' official notice from the time the recommendation is made.
 - f. The Senator subject to censure, not the author(s) or sponsor(s), will have final privilege when a resolution for censure is being debated in the Senate.
 - g. A vote of two-thirds of the membership of the Senate is required to censure a Senator.
 - h. ~~When the Chair has called a Senator to order, and has subsequently named that Senator and asked the Senate of what actions should be taken, a Senator may move from the floor to censure that individual. The motion to censure in this case will be heard immediately after being properly moved and seconded.~~
 - i. g. If a Senator is censured twice within a one-year period, the Rules and Ethics Committee will automatically investigate that Senator and may, at the committee's discretion, submit a resolution calling for that Senator's expulsion to the Senate.
2. Expulsion from the Senate:
- a. Any Senator may request the expulsion of another Senator from the Senate by filing a petition in the form of a written resolution calling for expulsion with the Rules and Ethics Committee.
 - i. The Senate may only hear an expulsion on the Senate floor if the Rules and Ethics Committee recommends it be heard.
 - b. Upon receiving a petition calling for expulsion, the Rules and Ethics Committee will has a maximum of two weeks to investigate and hear the charges as outlined in Rule ~~XII §5(e)~~ XI §4(b). The Rules and Ethics Committee may choose to not investigate a petition calling for expulsion that is substantially similar to a petition that has already been heard. A petition calling for expulsion of another Senator must have at least twenty (20) Senators' signatures of support.
 - c. ~~The Rules and Ethics Committee will ensure that any evidence requested by the committee~~ Any evidence from the petitioner(s) and respondent(s) must be given to them submitted to the Rules and Ethics Committee email at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.
 - d. ~~Should a member of the Rules and Ethics Committee be the subject of the petition, they will recuse themselves before any investigation.~~
 - e. ~~If the Rules and Ethics Committee fails to initiate proceedings within two weeks of the filing date of the petition or does not submit a recommendation to the Senate within four weeks, the full Senate will take up the matter.~~
 - f. d. If the Rules and Ethics Committee recommends expulsion to the Senate, the Senator subject to expulsion will be informed by the Rules and Ethics Committee no later than ~~three (3)~~ five (5) days before the meeting of the Senate at which the resolution for expulsion will be heard.

- g. ~~e.~~ The Senator subject to expulsion, not the author(s) or sponsor(s), will have final privilege when a resolution calling for expulsion is being debated in the Senate.
 - h. ~~f.~~ A vote of two-thirds of the membership of the Senate is required to expel a Senator.
 - i. ~~g.~~ The expulsion of a Senator becomes effective immediately after the final announcement of the vote.
3. Removal of Senate Officers, Liaisons, and Standing Committee Members:
- a. ~~Senators~~ Any Senator may request the removal of a Senate Officer, Liaison, Standing Committee Chair, or Standing Committee Member from their respective offices ~~in the same manner as requesting the expulsion of a Senator, namely by filing a petition in the form of a written resolution to remove the Officer or Liaison~~ with the Rules and Ethics Committee.
 - i. The Senate may only hear a recommendation for removal from an office on the Senate floor if the Rules and Ethics Committee recommends it be heard.
 - b. Upon receiving a petition calling for expulsion, the Rules and Ethics Committee has a maximum of two weeks to investigate and hear the charges as outlined in Rule XI §4(b). The Rules and Ethics Committee may choose to not investigate a petition calling for removal from the aforementioned respective offices that is substantially similar to a petition that has already been heard. A petition calling for the removal from another Senator's office must have at least twenty (20) Senators' signatures of support.
 - c. Should a member of the Rules and Ethics Committee be the subject of the petition, they will recuse themselves before any investigation.
 - d. ~~The Rules and Ethics Committee will ensure that any evidence requested by the committee b.~~ Any evidence from the petitioner(s) and respondent(s) must be ~~given to them~~ submitted to the Rules and Ethics Committee email at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.
 - e. ~~e.~~ If the Rules and Ethics Committee recommends removal to the Senate, the Officer, Liaison, Standing Committee Chair, or Committee Member subject to removal will be informed by the Rules and Ethics Committee no later than three five (5) days before the meeting of the Senate at which the resolution for removal will be heard.
 - f. ~~d.~~ The Senate Officer, Liaison, Standing Committee Chair, or Standing Committee Member subject to removal, not the author(s) or sponsor(s), will have final privilege when the resolution calling for removal is being debated in the Senate.
 - g. ~~e.~~ A vote of two-thirds of the membership of the Senate is required to remove a Senate Officer, Liaison, Standing Committee Chair, or Standing Committee Member.
 - h. ~~f.~~ The expulsion of a Senator from their respective position is effective immediately after the final announcement of the vote. In the event that the Senate President, Senate President Pro Tempore, or Senate Member-at-Large is removed from their respective position, elections as outlined in Rule I may not take place until the following regular meeting.
 - i. The following Officers ~~and Liaisons~~ may be removed using this procedure:

