SB73-12/13: Amending Election Bylaws

Mike Hopkins
The Associated Students of The University of Montana
Resolution Amending Election Bylaws
March 27, 2013
SB73-12/13
Authored by: Mike Hopkins, ASUM Senator
Sponsored by: Brandon Simpson, ASUM Senator; Thomas Sean McQuillan, Student; Ryan Hazen, ASUM Senator; Cody Gordon, ASUM Senator; Mariah Williams, ASUM Senator; Micah L. Nielsen, ASUM Business Manager

Whereas, when students are asked to sign petitions for individuals running for The Associated Students of The University of Montana (ASUM), the student(s) have a right to ask the individual running for ASUM questions;

Whereas, if a student asks a candidate why he or she is running for an ASUM office, the candidate cannot currently answer the students question as it is considered campaigning, and action may be taken against the candidate by the Elections Committee;

Whereas, the act of introducing yourself as a candidate for ASUM office for the purposes of collecting signatures can in and of itself be considered campaigning;

Whereas, Article V Section 3A states; Campaigning, with the exception of primary petition signing, is defined as any activity which promotes the candidacy of one or more individuals for an office. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to; scheduling appearances; lobbying a voter; posting, publication or distribution of advertisements, correspondence or literature.

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that Article V Section 3A be amended to read:

A. Campaigning, with the exception of primary petition signing, is defined as any activity which promotes the candidacy of one or more individuals for an office. This includes, but is not necessarily limited to; scheduling appearances; lobbying a voter; posting, publication or distribution of advertisements, correspondence or literature.

1. During the primary petition signing period, candidates may, upon being asked by students, describe the duties of the office they are seeking and declare their reasons for seeking the office in question. This shall not be interpreted to apply to any other period during the election. All other forms of campaigning restricted in this article shall still apply to the primary petition signing period.

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, article V, section 3A1 shall not take effect until the end of the primary petition signing period in which it was adopted.

Passed by Committee: _____________________________, 2013
Passed by ASUM Senate: __________________________, 2013

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Damara Simpson,  
Bryn Hagfors,  
Relations and Affairs Chair,  
Chair of the Senate