Introduced By: Sponsored By:

Contact: First Reading: Committee Action: Second Reading:

Third Reading: Final Vote: Senator Borges E&A Chair Escobar, Supervisor of Election Brown sga\_hm2@ucf.edu March 13, 2025 Passed 5-0-0 April 10, 2025; Passed 33-0-0 April 17, 2025 Passed 32-1-0



University of Central Florida Fifty Sixth Student Body Senate Internal Bill 56-36

[Updates to Title VI: Paid Endorsements]

WHEREAS, Statutes require constant updates and revision to best serve the Student Body;

WHEREAS, Transparency in student elections is essential to ensuring a fair and informed voting process;

WHEREAS, Students have the right to know whether endorsements for candidates are genuine expressions of support or financially motivated statements;

**WHEREAS**, Undisclosed paid endorsements may mislead voters and create false perceptions about a candidate's qualifications, policies, or popularity;

WHEREAS, Ensuring that all paid endorsements are clearly disclosed prevents manipulation of the electoral process and maintains the integrity of student government elections;

WHEREAS, Transparency in campaign endorsements helps students make informed decisions based on genuine support rather than financial influence;

WHEREAS, The implementation of a clear and conspicuous disclosure requirement for paid endorsements will strengthen trust in student government elections and protect the legitimacy of candidates' campaigns;

**WHEREAS**, This bill serves to uphold the principles of fairness and accountability in the electoral process, ensuring that voters can make decisions based on accurate and honest information; and

WHEREAS, This Bill will go into effect at the start of the 57th Senate Session.

**THEREFORE**, **BE IT ENACTED**, by the Fifty-Sixth Student Senate of the University of Central Florida that Title VI be amended as follows:

Chapter 605 Campaign Expense and Physical Assistance Reporting

- 605.9 Any professional service that directly endorses a candidate or ticket in exchange for payment must disclose in a clear and conspicuous location that it is a paid endorsement.
  - A. Candidates are solely responsible for ensuring all parties are in compliance with this requirement.
  - B. The Supervisor of Elections may declare a disclosure as clear and conspicuous.
- Chapter 606 Violations
  - 606.2 Tier II violations shall be:
    - A. Altering their name provided to the University when applying for candidacy without the approval of the Supervisor of Elections or the Student Government Coordinator.
    - B. Active Campaigning within: University designated computer labs, libraries, bookstores, classrooms, inside the Student Union Building including the gated patio area, inside the Recreation and Wellness Center Building, and within the fifteen (15) foot boundary surrounding the Election Tent unless for an Election Commission approved event or an approved RSO meeting.
    - C. Distributing or displaying campaign material on or in a building without first securing the written permission of said building's manager and submitting such permission to the Election Commission prior to the distribution of said material.
    - D. Failing to remove all campaign materials from the campus by 4:00 p.m. of the next academic day following the general or runoff election.
    - E. Using the past and/or present SG logo on campaign items.
    - F. Failing to turn in an individual campaign expense statement for campaign materials to the Supervisor of Elections by 11:59 p.m. of each Sunday of the campaign for Presidential Candidates.
    - G. Failing to turn in a physical assistance statement for any physical assistance received to the Supervisor of Elections by 11:59 p.m. of each Sunday of the campaign for Presidential Candidates.

- H. Distributing apparel before the commencement of Active Campaigning or after the statutorily defined Election Time begins.
- I. Failing to disclose in a clear and conspicuous location any paid endorsement.

## **AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES**

BryceLister

Bryce Lister Student Body President

Dr. Adrienne Frame Vice President, SSWB

Date

Date