



**STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION**

EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY

**Student Senate
of the**

East Tennessee State University

SSA-25-003

Executive Vice President Finn Shirley presents the following legislation to the East Tennessee State University Student Government Association on behalf of the Student Government Association

**AN ACT TO AMEND THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
CONSTITUTION REGARDING EXECUTIVE CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS
FOR OFFICE**

WHEREAS, candidates for Executive leadership of the Student Government Association are subject to qualifications for office as outlined in Article II Section 3 of the Student Government Association Constitution;

WHEREAS, one such qualification requires Executive candidates prior to or within thirty (30) days of inauguration to have "served at least one (1) semester or its equivalent (15 weeks) holding a position within the Student Government Association";

WHEREAS, the above qualification exists to ensure candidates have spent sufficient time in Student Government before attempting to assume leadership and thus greater responsibilities and duties in serving the student body;

WHEREAS, a candidate for Executive office could under the current language of the qualifications apply to run for an Executive office in the same semester they were appointed having at the start of the election period only served for fewer than 2 months;

WHEREAS, the unofficial acting policy of the previous two Student Government Association advisors has been to apply the current Executive candidate qualifications to a candidate at the time of election application submission to determine eligibility, rather than the office's date of inauguration following the conclusion of the election season;

WHEREAS, the discrepancy between the language of the Constitution and the acting policy of the Student Government Association advisor creates confusion regarding the eligibility of Student Government members seeking election to an Executive office;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED BY THE 2024-2025 STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION SENATE OF THE EAST TENNESSEE STATE UNIVERSITY THAT:

Section 1. The introductory clause for Article II - Executive Branch, Section 3 of the Student Government Association Constitution shall be amended to read as follows:

“To serve as President, Executive Vice President, or Vice President for Finance and Administration, a student shall prior to the closing date of Student Government Association applications as determined by the Student Government Association advisor.”

Section 2. Subsections a, b, c, and d shall remain unchanged and in accordance with all applicable legislation.

Section 3. All legislation or parts of legislation in conflict with this are hereby repealed.

Section 4. This bill shall, upon signage, go into effect beginning with the 2026-2027 Student Government Association elections.