RESOLUTION 16-18

A BILL TO ADD TO THE GPSF CONSTITUTION A PROCESS TO RECALL A SENATOR FROM OR REPLACE A SENATOR ON A COMMITTEE

25 OCT 2016 INTRODUCED BY BRIAN A. COUSSEN, GPSF VPIA
25 OCT 2016 REFERRED TO GPSF RESOLUTIONS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
25 OCT 2016 4-0-0 BY RESOLUTIONS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE; REFERRED TO GPSF SENATE
06 DEC 2016 PASSED 45-0-0 BY THE GPSF SENATE

WHEREAS, the majority of Senate business occurs within the Senate’s Standing and Select Committees,

WHEREAS, according to the GPSF Treasury Law, Representative Units are rewarded with an allocation bonus for Committee service,

WHEREAS, the repeated absence of a Senator from Committee meetings or the failure of a Senator to perform Committee duties may hamper the business of the Senate and, in their failure to fulfill their obligations, prevents a unit more willing to perform Committee duties from receiving allocations, and

WHEREAS, the GPSF Constitution provides no instrument of recall of Senators from Committees for misfeasance, malfeasance, or nonfeasance,

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE SENATE OF THE GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL STUDENT FEDERATION that a process of Recall and Replacement be added to the GPSF Constitution as Article V, Section 8, Subsection e as follows:

(e) Recall and Replacement on a Committee

1. A Senator selected to a Senate Committee is obligated to attend the duly called meetings of that Committee and perform the duties necessary for conducting committee business and may be recalled by the Senate for not attending meetings or performing those duties (nonfeasance), misfeasance, or malfeasance.

2. To recall a Senator from a Committee, the process shall be as follows:
a. The Vice-President of Internal Affairs shall receive in writing a notification of charges against the Senator, voted and approved by the majority of the Committee on which the Senator sits.

b. The Vice-President of Internal Affairs shall then convene a Committee Hearing, which will consider the merits of the complaint and decide whether or not to dismiss the case or remove the person from the Committee.

   i. The Committee Hearing shall be chaired by the Vice-President of Internal Affairs. The Vice-President of Internal Affairs shall only cast a vote in the case of a tie.

   ii. The membership of the Committee Hearing shall be the sitting chairs of the existing Standing, Select, and Ad-Hoc Committees of the GPSF Senate.

   iii. The Senator may present themselves before the Committee Hearing to present a defense, or they may present a defense in writing. The ability of the Senator to attend the Committee Hearing shall not be considered as evidence of their nonfeasance, misfeasance, or malfeasance.

   iv. A decision must pass the Committee Hearing with a simple majority (50%+1) of its voting membership.

c. The Senator may make an appeal of the Committee Hearing’s decision at the next duly called meeting of the Senate.

d. The Senate must fill any Committee seat at the next duly called meeting of the Senate if it is vacated.

3. If a Committee Member is unable to fulfill their duties as a Senator and Committee Member, they shall present in writing to the Vice-President of Internal Affairs a petition to vacate their Committee seat. Nominations to fill the seat shall be held at the next duly called Senate meeting.

Done this day, the sixth of December two thousand and sixteen.

Brian A. Coussens
Vice President of Internal Affairs

G. Dylan Russell
President