

Date Introduced: October 23, 2018

Date Voted Upon: October 23, 2018

An Amendment to be Entitled Increasing Accountability within the USGA

- 1 WHEREAS the University of Alabama at Birmingham Undergraduate Student
2 Government Association has the honor and responsibility of representing the entire
3 undergraduate student voice; and
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- 5 WHEREAS it is the duty of the USGA to lead the undergraduate student body towards
6 positive and relevant changes; and
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- 8 WHEREAS the Undergraduate Student Government Association does not have a
9 proper system in which all members of the Association have a system in place to
10 ensure accountability; and
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- 12 WHEREAS currently the members of the Cabinet and members of the Senate have a
13 demerit system established; and
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- 15 WHEREAS establishing an accountability measure will encourage all members of the
16 Association to be transparent in all actions and decisions; and
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- 18 WHEREAS all divisions in the USGA will be subject to a demerit system to maintain
19 accountability; and
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- 21 WHEREAS the demerit count will reset each semester; and
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- 23 WHEREAS the issuance of one demerit will result in a written warning, the issuance of
24 a second demerit will result in a written warning and a 20% reduction of the total
25 allotment of the student's stipend; and
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- 27 WHEREAS The issuance of a second demerit will result in a mandatory meeting with
28 the student, their direct supervisor, the USGA advisors, and the Student Advocate; and
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- 30 WHEREAS the issuance of three demerits results in a forfeiture of the student's position
31 and choosing not to issue a plea to appeal results in automatic dismissal from the
32 USGA; and
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- 34 WHEREAS the Executive Council, Cabinet, the Legislative Branch, and the Judicial
35 Branch must have a demerit policy; and
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- 37 WHEREAS the Executive Council, Cabinet, the Legislative Branch, and the Judicial
38 Branch's respective heads has the right to create its own demerit system that best suits
39 the duties of that group and must have one in place by the second joint meeting of the
40 Branch; and
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- 42 WHEREAS changes to the group's demerit system must be approved by a simple two-
43 thirds majority vote of all members of said group; and
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45 WHEREAS following a vote to change the demerit system, demerits cannot be
46 retroactively given to students; and

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48 WHEREAS changes to a demerit system must be reviewed and approved by the USGA
49 Advisors; and

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51 WHEREAS the passage of this amendment will remove Section 301.6.2 in the Code of
52 Laws which states “any Senator who misses two (2) unexcused Senate meetings in one
53 semester automatically forfeits his or her seat”; and

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55 WHEREAS the passage of this amendment will remove Section 301.6.3 in the Code of
56 Laws which states “a removed Senator may appeal the forfeiture of his or her seat to
57 the Senate; the Senate can reinstate a forfeited seat with a three-fourths majority vote”;
58 and

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60 WHEREAS the passage of this amendment will remove Section 301.6.4 in the Code of
61 Laws which states “an absence from one (1) unexcused committee meeting shall be the
62 equivalent of an unexcused Senate meeting absence of seventy-five hundredths
63 (0.75)”; and

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65 WHEREAS the passage of this amendment will remove Section 301.6.6 in the Code of
66 Laws which states “the Senate retreat or orientation may be counted as a regular
67 Senate absence at the discretion of the Executive Vice President”; and

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69 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the UAB USGA, representing the undergraduate
70 student population, will establish this system in the UAB USGA Code of Laws and follow
71 through with these procedures.

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73 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that these changes will be implemented into the Code of
74 Laws through the Judicial Branch within two (2) weeks of the passing of this bill.

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