

Order SO 2122-06**May 6, 2021**FOLLOWING INTERNAL REVIEW
ON BEHALF OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CONSTITUTIONDavid Haungs, *Judicial Council President*
Madison Nemeth, *Parliamentarian***AN ORDER TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION WITH RESPECT TO
ENDORSEMENTS**

Whereas, the Constitution forbids a list of enumerated officers and Student Union Organizations from making endorsements (Article XV, Section 1(g));

Whereas, the Constitution provides no way to hold non-candidate officeholders accountable for making prohibited endorsements through the election misconduct process ([Precedent 2021-05](#));

Whereas, our scheme of endorsement regulations creates absurd results, including the fact that students may be endorsed by Residence Halls but may not tell anyone that they have received those endorsements (Precedents [1920-01](#), [2021-01](#));

Whereas, as a result of this confusion, allegations related to endorsements comprised the majority of those received by the Judicial Council over the last two election cycles, almost all of which were without merit (Precedents [1920-02](#), [2021-01](#), [2021-02](#), [2021-05](#), [2021-08](#));

Whereas, permitting candidates to compete for endorsements of student leaders and Student Union Organizations would therefore clarify a confusing area of election regulations and decrease the frequency of frivolous allegations;

Whereas, according to the [results of a survey](#) of over 400 students conducted by Judicial Council, the most common way voters learn information about candidates is through their peers;

Whereas, permitting candidates to compete for endorsements of student leaders and Student Union Organizations would therefore also increase interest in the Student Union, incentivize candidates to understand its structure and offices, and help voters gauge the merits of the various candidates;

Whereas, the Constitution should nevertheless prohibit certain individuals from making endorsements in order to insulate the student elections process from University pressure, keep all candidates on equal footing with respect to financial resources, and maintain the neutrality of decision-makers in the allegation process; therefore, be it

Ordered by the Student Senate of the University of Notre Dame du Lac,

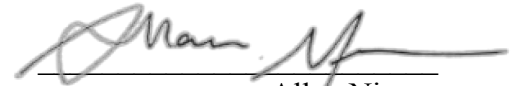
That the Constitution is hereby amended as follows:

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May 6, 2021

- I. Article XV, Section 1(g)(8) as written below is hereby inserted and all current subsections and all references thereof and thereafter are renumbered accordingly:**
(8) No Student Union Organization; Judicial Council Officer; Member of the Election Committee; member of the Senate apart from Executive Cabinet Department Directors; or University department, office, or official may endorse a candidate/ticket for office, and no candidate/ticket shall seek or claim to have received any such endorsement.
- II. Article XV, Sections 1(g)(2) to 1(g)(6) are hereby repealed and all subsections and references thereafter and thereof are renumbered accordingly.**

It is so ordered.



Allan Njomo
Student Body President