

Kate Brandin, *Walsh Hall Senator*
Paul Stoller, *Junior Class President*
Trista Brantley, *Breen-Phillips Senator*

AN ORDER TO AMEND ARTICLE XIV OF THE CONSTITUTION

Whereas, encouraging more active student participation in the Student Union should be a paramount priority of the Student Union;

Whereas, Article XIV, Section 2(b) of the *Constitution* dictates, “A two-thirds vote of the undergraduate students who exercise their right to vote provided 20% of the undergraduate student body currently residing locally casts votes, is necessary for the initiative to become binding upon the Senate”;

Whereas, according to [benchmarking of the top 20 universities in the country](#) 13 of the 16 that have student body wide voting mechanisms have a simple majority voting system;

Whereas, Article XIV, Section 2(b) of the *Constitution* dictates that, “A binding initiative shall cause the Senate to take swift and necessary action on the issue of the initiative”; therefore, be it;

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

I. Article XIV, Section 1 of the *Constitution* is amended to read as follows:

- (a) A petition bearing the valid signatures of 200 members of the undergraduate student body shall cause the Senate to consider a specific resolution within two academic weeks of the presentation of the petition to the Senate.

II. Article XIV, Section 2 of the *Constitution* is amended to read as follows:

- (a) A petition containing the signatures of 15% of the undergraduate student body may create an initiative.
- (b) A simple majority vote of the undergraduate students who exercise their right to vote, provided 20% of the undergraduate student body casts votes, is necessary for the initiative to become binding upon the Senate. A binding initiative shall cause the Senate to consider the issue of the initiative, which is a form of petition, within two academic weeks of the student body vote.

It is so ordered.

Patrick Lee
Student Body President