ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE SESSION LXIV TERM I

> IN THE SENATE BILL (622)

BY

(RAKESH ITANI), COLLEGE OF GRADUATE STUDIES

SPONSORED BY
(DIYA PANDEY), COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

This bill establishes clear guidelines and procedures for conducting student government elections. The purpose of this bill is to ensure fair, transparent, and efficient election processes by defining candidate eligibility, campaign regulations, voting procedures, and dispute resolution mechanisms.

# ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF IDAHO STATE UNIVERSITY ELECTION CODE

Amended Fall 2024

#### **Table of Contents:**

**ARTICLE I—**Chapter 1: PURPOSE AND INTENT

Section 1—Subchapter 1: Purpose

Section 2—Subchapter 2: Equal Protection

#### ARTICLE II—Chapter 2: THE ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Section 1—Subchapter 1: Purpose and Scope

**Subchapter 2: Composition** 

Section 2 Subchapter 3: Membership and Terms

Section 3-Subchapter 4: Appointment and Eligibility of Elections Commission

Section 4-Subchapter 5: Conduct and Removal of Members of the Elections Commission

**ARTICLE HI—**Chapter 3: MECHANICS OF THE ELECTION

Section 1—Subchapter 1: Election Dates

Section 2—Subchapter 2: Voting Procedures

**Subchapter 3: Election Timeline** 

## ARTICLE IV—Chapter 4: VOTERS' GUIDE

Section 1—Subchapter 1: Purpose

<del>Section 2—</del> <u>Subchapter 2:</u> Specifications

Section 3—Subchapter 3: Distribution

#### **ARTICLE V**—Chapter 5: CANDIDATES

Section 1—Subchapter 1: Eligibility

Section 2—Subchapter 2: Candidate Name

Section 3—Subchapter 3: Filing

Section 4—Subchapter 4: Candidate Packet

Section 5—Subchapter 5: Petitions

<del>Section 6—</del>Subchapter 6: Candidate Statement

Section 7—Subchapter 7: Write-In Candidates

Section 8—Subchapter 8: Campaign Deposits

#### **ARTICLE VI—Chapter 6: PARTIES AND ENDORSEMENTS**

Section 1—Subchapter 1: Definition

Section 2—Subchapter 2: Party Registration

Section 3—Subchapter 3: Party Name

Section 4—Subchapter 4: Party Filing Requirements

Section 5—Subchapter 5: Party Statement

Section 6—Subchapter 6: Party Campaign Deposits

Section 7—Subchapter 7: Endorsements

#### **ARTICLE VII—Chapter 7:** THE CANDIDATES' MEETING

Section 1—Subchapter 1: Function of the Candidates' Meeting

Section 2—The Point of No Return

## ARTICLE VII—Chapter 8: THE BALLOT

Section 1—Subchapter 1: Ballot Order

Section 2—Subchapter 2: Form of Ballot

#### **ARTICLE IX**—Chapter 9: BALLOT TABULATION

Section 1—Subchapter 1: Ballot Tabulation

Section 2 Subchapter 2: Handling of Incomplete and Invalid Votes

Section 3—Subchapter 3: Executive Race

Section 4—Subchapter 4: Senate Races

Section 5—Subchapter 5: Ties

#### **ARTICLE X—Chapter 10:** CAMPAIGN RULES

Section 1—Subchapter 1: Purpose and Authority

Section 2—Subchapter 2: Temporary Rules

Section 3—Subchapter 3: Active Campaigning

Section 4—Subchapter 4: Posting Rules

Section 5—Subchapter 5: Campaign Finance Rules and Regulations

Section 6—Subchapter 6: Ethical Violations

Section 7—Subchapter 7: Campaign Conduct

Section 8—Subchapter 8: Enforcement

Section 9—Subchapter 9: Polling Stations

## **ARTICLE XI—Chapter 11:** ELECTION COMPLAINTS

Section 1—Subchapter 1: Filing Complaints

Section 2—Subchapter 2: Commission Authority

Section 3—Subchapter 3: Contesting Election Results

## **ARTICLE XII—Chapter 12: PROPOSITIONS**

Section 1—Subchapter 1: Definitions

Section 2—Subchapter 2: Primary Proponents of a Proposition

Section 3—Subchapter 3: Proponents of a Proposition

Section 4—Subchapter 4: Primary Opponent of a Proposition

Section 5—Subchapter 5: Opponents of a Proposition

Section 6—Subchapter 6: Proposition Statement

#### **ARTICLE I—PURPOSE AND INTENT**

## **Chapter 1: Election Code**

#### Section 1- Subchapter 1: Purpose

A. 1.1.1 The Election Code shall apply to all elections and voting within ASISU.

B.1.1.2 The election code shall be the governing document of the election commission.

C. 1.1.3 The Electoral Code shall be the governing document for all elections held by the ASISU.

#### **Section 2 - Equal Protection**

#### **Subchapter 2: Authority**

The Election code is intended to ensure that each candidate is afforded an opportunity for election equal to that of any other candidate for that office, and proponent and opponents of propositions are afforded an equal opportunity for their respective victory.

A. 1.2.1 The Election Code shall not conflict with the ASISU Constitution.

B-1.2.2 The authority of the Election Code is provided by the ASISU Constitution.

C.1.2.3 The Election Code shall be created and amended by the ASISU Senate with a two-thirds affirmative vote and approval.

<del>D.</del>1.2.4 Any alterations to this code shall be adopted when the alterations are considered enacted legislation.

## **ARTICLE II** Chapter 2: —THE ELECTIONS COMMISSION

#### Section 1 - Subchapter 1: Purpose and Scope

A.Control of all ASISU elections and related activities shall rest with the Elections

Commission. 2.1.1 The election commission is established under the ASISU

Constitution to oversee all elections within ASISU and perform all duties outlined within the ASISU constitution, executive bylaws, and election code.

## **Subchapter 2: Composition**

A. The authority of the Elections Commission shall be limited in scope to only those duties stated in the ASISU constitution, Bylaws, Election Code, and those duties essential and imperative in carrying out the same. 2.2.1 The Election Commission shall comprise of one Election Commissioner and one Deputy Election Commissioner.

#### Section 2 — Subchapter 3: Membership and Terms

A.2.3.1 The terms of all members of the Elections Commission shall commence upon their appointment and expire at the ASISU Banquet.

#### Section 3 — Subchapter 4: Appointment and Eligibility of Elections Commission

A:2.4.1 The elections commissioner shall be appointed by the ASISU President and approved by a ½ majority vote of the ASISU Senate. Other Elections Commission members shall be appointed by the President upon recommendation of the commissioner and approved by a ½ majority vote of the Senate. All members of the election commission shall maintain a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA and be enrolled in <u>full time coursework</u> - at least 12 credit hours (<u>for</u>

<u>undergraduate students</u>) and 6 credit hours for graduate students throughout their term in the office.

B-2.4.2 If the president does not appoint and the Senate does not confirm an elections commissioner by the senate by the eighth regular Senate meeting of the fall session, no official business shall be considered until they do so.

C.2.4.3 In cases where the commissioner resigns, the ASISU President shall appoint a new elections commissioner within 2 school weeks of the resignation. The Senate must confirm a new commissioner within two regular Senate meetings after the appointment of the officer in accordance with 2.4.1.

## Section 4–Subchapter 5: Conduct and Removal of Members of the Elections Commission

A.2.5.1 The CommissionerAny member of the Elections Commission may be removed from office before the expiration of their term by order of the ASISU president or a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate for gross dereliction of duties.

B.Any member of the Elections Commission may be removed from office before the expiration of their term by the Commissioner for gross dereliction of duties.

C.2.5.2 No member of the commission shall publicly or officially support or oppose any ASISU candidate while serving on the commission.

## **ARTICLE HI—**Chapter 3: MECHANICS OF THE ELECTION

#### Section 1—Subchapter 1: Election Dates

A.3.1.1 ASISU election dates shall be set by the ASISU Senate by the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) regular Senate meeting of the fall session, upon recommendation of the Elections

Commission, and finalized by the tenth  $(10^{th})$  regular senate meeting, by the senate, to ensure the schedule is in sync with the constitution, election code and bylaws.

B.3.1.2 If the Senate does not determine the election dates by the tenth (10<sup>th</sup>) regular meeting of the fall session, the Senate may not consider any official business until they do so.

C.3.1.3 ASISU election dates will fall between midterm week and spring break of the spring semester.

<del>D.</del>3.1.4 The election will start at 8 am Monday until 5 pm Thursday.

#### **Section 2—Subchapter 2:** Voting Procedures

A.3.2.1 Students may vote online from a computer an electronic device of their choice throughout the entire voting period.

B.3.2.2 Online voting shall include a system to verify that the individual is an ISU student and pays the ASISU fee and Student Activities fee. The online system shall include safeguards against voting more than once and shall provide adequate safeguards to avoid election fraud. The commission shall determine the adequacy of online voting safeguards.

C.3.2.3 Accessing the online voting database shall be prohibited during the voting period.

<del>D.</del>3.2.4 In the event of a computer system failure, verifiable by the system administrator, during the election period, the election will commence on the repair of the computer system. The time will be determined by the commission.

all electronic voting shall be deemed final. If time remains for voting after the system failure then voting will commence.

- 3.2.4.1 Voting cannot be extended to make up for time lost due to any and all malfunctions of the system.
- 3.2.5 Each student shall only vote once for the respective senators of their college and once for the executive ticket.

E. 3.2.6 Students who have more than one major and wish to vote in a different college than what appears on their online ballot may request a paper ballot in the ASISU office if they have not already voted for the other college. The Elections Commission shall verify that the student's major falls under the college they wish to vote for.

## **Subchapter 3: Election Timeline**

- 3.3.1 The Candidate Information Meeting shall be held the last week of January at 6pm. Filing becomes available after the meeting. ASISU Candidate Packets available online.
- 3.3.2 Deadline to submit all ASISU Candidate Packet information to the ASISU Office will be the Friday of the 2nd week of February by 5pm. Late packets shall not be admitted for any reason.
- 3.3.3 Two Mandatory Candidate Meetings shall be held 3rd week of February at 6pm. Candidates must attend one of these meetings. Candidates will verify the

ballot and election rules will be reviewed. Active campaigning begins immediately following the last meeting.

- 3.3.4 Mandatory Senator Speeches shall be held within 2 weeks following the official start of the campaigning period.
- 3.3.5 A Mandatory Executive Ticket Debate shall be held within 2 weeks following the official start of the campaigning period.
- 3.3.6 First day of school after the online voting officially closes: Campaign expenditure sheets must be turned in by 5 p.m.
- 3.3.7 On the first day of school after the election, all campaign materials must be removed by 10 p.m.

## ARTICLE IV—Chapter 4: VOTERS' GUIDE

#### Section 1—Subchapter 1: Purpose

4.1.1 The Voters' Guide shall provide an opportunity to candidates, parties and, proponents and opponents information on of propositions (both for and against) to express their opinions on an election and provide information about ASISU, the voting procedures, the candidates, and the propositions. The Elections Commissioner, PublicityDeputy Elections Commissioner, and ASISU Secretary will be in charge of shall oversee the content and design. The voter's guide shall be available on the ASISU website, within 48 business hours of the candidates filing deadline.

#### **Section 2—Subchapter 2:** Specifications

<u>4.1.2</u> The Voters' Guide shall include candidate statements, the full text of all propositions and proposed constitutional amendments, an explanation of voting procedures, and a description of the duties of the Senate and Executive offices.

#### Section 3—Distribution

The Voters' Guide shall be published online and linked from the ASISU website.

The Voter's Guide shall also be posted on all social media and would follow the same format and order as the ballot.

#### **ARTICLE V—Chapter 5: CANDIDATES**

#### Section 1—Subchapter 1: Eligibility

A.5.1.1 Each candidate must meet the requirements of eligibility for the office for which they are running as stated in the ASISU Constitution, and Officer Duties and Responsibilities Rule Book. Senate Bylaws, and Executive Bylaws.

B. 5.1.2 The Commission and the ASISU Secretary shall verify only the students candidate's enrollment status of each candidate. In accordance to Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the eligibility based on grades and colleges shall be verified by the Office of Student Affairs.

C.5.1.3 All candidates declared ineligible to run shall be notified by the commission within 24 72 business hours of processing becoming aware of the respective candidate's ineligibility.

#### <del>Section 2 – Subchapter 2: Candidate Name</del>

A.5.2.1 A candidate must use their <u>full</u> name as registered with Idaho State University, or a shortened version of their registered name, on the ballot.

B-5.2.2 The Deputy Elections Commissioner shall work with the Office of Student Affairs to verify the validity and legality of all candidate names, as submitted on the filing form by the candidates, and shall inform all affected candidates of any problems or inconsistencies.

#### Section 3—Subchapter 3: Filing

A.5.3.1 The filing period for candidates shall open at the <u>end of the Candidate</u> information meeting as prescribed in 3.3.1.discretion of the Elections Commission no less than fourteen (14) days before the filing deadline.

B. 5.3.2 All candidates appearing on the ballot must indicate their desire to run by completing an official Candidate Filing FormASISU Candidate Packet during the filing period. The Candidate Filing FormASISU Candidate Packet shall be provided by the commission and made available online on ASISU's website.

C.5.3.3 Candidate Filing Forms ASISU Candidate Packet must be filled with submitted to a representative member of the Commission, ASISU President, ASISU Vice President or the Secretary of ASISU.

D.5.3.4 A candidate can withdraw from the election at any time before the mandatory debates. Otherwise the candidate's name shall stay on the ballot. The Point of No Return, which is being placed on the ballot.

E.5.3.5 A candidate shall only seek one office per election.

F.5.3.6 Candidates running for Senate who are enrolled in multiple colleges may choose which college, in which they are enrolled, that they wish to represent.

#### Section 4 - Subchapter 4: ASISU Candidate Packet

Each candidate appearing on the ballot shall file a candidate packet with the elections commission during the filing period. The candidate packet shall include:

A. 5.4.1 The candidate's name as it appears <u>as described in Chapter 5 Subchapter</u>

2 on their ISU Bengal Card, and their name as it is to appear in the ballot.

B.5.4.2 The office the candidate is seeking.

C.5.4.3 The candidate's party (if any).

D. 5.4.4 Contact information of the candidate.

E. 5.4.5 The name and contact information of the candidate's campaign assistant (if applicable). A campaign assistant can be anyone assisting the candidate with campaign planning, outreach, research, and communications.

F. <u>5.4.6</u> A statement signed by the candidate acknowledging they <del>are responsible</del> for have reviewed and understood all the information contained in the election code and the information presented at the candidate's meeting.

#### Section 5 - Petitions Chapter 5: Voter Signature List

A.5.5.1 Those who wish to run on an executive ticket, and have their names appear on the ballot, must have a petition Voter Signature List signed by no fewer than one hundred and fifty (150) currently enrolled, fee-paying ISU students.

B.5.5.2 Those who wish to run for a position on the ASISU Senate and have their name appear on the ballot must have a petition Voter Signature List signed by no fewer than thirty (30) currently enrolled, fee paying ASISU students. Each

candidate must garner the <u>needed\_thirty (30)</u> signatures from <u>fee paying ISU</u> students currently enrolled in the college the candidate seeks to represent.

C.5.5.3 Those who wish to run for the position of an outreach campus vice president and have their name appear on the ballot must have a petition Voter Signature List signed by no fewer than twenty (20) currently enrolled, fee-paying ISU students that who are enrolled in at least one (1) course on the outreach campus they are running for.

D.5.5.4 All petitions Voter Signature List -must be submitted to the commission by the filing deadline. at the time the Candidate Packet is due

E.5.5.5 The petition Voter Signature List must have the position that the candidate is seeking clearly identified on each the front page of the form. If the candidate files for a position other than the one stated on the form, the form is declared invalid, and he/she the candidate must then obtain a new petition Voter Signature List.

5.5.6 Students must be shown the first page of the Voter Signature List outlining the position that the candidate is seeking.

#### Section 6 – Subchapter 6: Candidate Statement

A.5.6.1 A maximum five hundred (500) word statement for the Voter's Guide may must be submitted to the commission if running on an the executive ticket, or a maximum two hundred and fifty (250) word statement if seeking a position on the ASISU senate or as an outreach campus vice president. These statements shall be included in the Voter's Guide.

B.Write-in candidates and their candidate statements shall not appear in the ASISU Voter's Guide.

C.5.6.2 The candidate shall submit the statement and headshot to the commission a representative of the election commission at the same time the candidate packet is due before the deadline as described in Chapter 3 subchapter 3. specified in the candidate packet.

#### Section 7 - Subchapter 7: Write-In Candidates

- 5.7.1 A write-in candidate shall be anyone who submits a ASISU Candidate Packet after the submission deadline, excluding Voter Signature List.
- 5.7.2 They will not appear on the ballot or the Voter's Guide, but can participate in the debate if they have submitted their paperwork before the 24 hours debates.
- A.5.7.1 All write-in candidates shall be subject to all campaigning rules and regulations as prescribed in the Election Code.
- B.5.7.2 Write-in candidates for the ASISU executive offices must run as a ticket.
- C.5.7.3 Write-in ballots for the ASISU executive offices must be marked as a ticket in order to be counted.
- <del>D.</del>5.7.4 When writing or typing in a candidate, the name of the candidate must be legible and valid.
- E.5.7.5 Determination of voter intent will be based on names as they are spelled in official ISU records from the Registrar.

5.7.6 To be a Write-In candidate, The ASISU Candidate Packet must be submitted one week before voting begins. Any names submitted that are not matched to an official candidate shall not be placed on the election results.

#### Section 8 - Subchapter 8: Campaign Deposits

A.5.8.1 All executive tickets shall submit a one hundred dollar (\$100) refundable posting deposit (not counted as a campaign expense) to the commission by the due date of the candidate filing form, or the ticket is not eligible to run. This deposit will be forfeited by tickets that fail to remove their campaign materials by the day immediately following the last day of the voting period by 10 pm. 10:00 pm MST, on the first school day immediately following the last day of the voting period.

B.5.8.2 Write-in executive tickets that actively campaign (i.e., post signs, make flyers, etc.) must submit a one hundred dollar (\$100) refundable posting deposit (not counted as a campaign expense) to the commission before the ticket's active campaigning begins (i.e. before they hang one sign, pass out one pamphlet, etc.). This deposit will be forfeited by tickets that fail to remove their campaign materials by the day immediately following the last day of the voting period by 10 pm. 10:00 pm MST, on the first school day immediately following the last day of the voting period.

E.5.8.3 All Senate candidates and candidates for the office of outreach campus vice president shall submit a fifty dollar (\$50) refundable posting deposit (not counted as a campaign expense) to the commission by the due date of the candidate filing form, or the candidate is not eligible to run. This deposit will be forfeited by tickets that fail to remove their campaign materials by the day immediately following the last day of the voting period by 10 pm. 10:00 pm MST, on the first school day immediately following the last day of the voting period.

<del>D.</del>5.8.4 All write-in Senate candidates and write-in candidates for the office of outreach campus vice president shall submit a fifty dollar (\$50) refundable posting deposit (not counted as a campaign expense) to the commission before the candidate's active campaigning begins (i.e., before they hang one sign, pass out one pamphlet, etc.). This deposit will be forfeited by tickets that fail to remove their campaign materials by the day immediately following the last day of the voting period by 10 pm. 10:00 pm MST, on the first school day immediately following the last day of the voting period.

<u>E.5.8.5</u> Fines issued by the Elections Commission will be deducted from the candidate's/ticket's deposit. If the fines issued exceed the candidate's/ticket's deposit, a hold will be placed on the student(s) university account until the fines are paid.

#### -ARTICLE VI-Chapter 6: PARTIES AND ENDORSEMENTS

#### Section 1 - Subchapter 1: Definition

<u>6.1.1</u> A party is any group of two or more candidates who mutually agree to use the same party name.

## Section 2 - Subchapter 2: Party Registration

A.6.2.1 Any persons candidates who wish to register a party with the Elections Commission may do so by informing the Elections Commission, in writing, of the creation of their party by the due date as decided by the Elections Commission.

B.6.2.2 Parties shall govern themselves in a manner party members see appropriate.

C.6.2.3 Each party must inform the Elections Commission of the party's chairperson during the registration of the party. Once registered, the chairperson

of the party may be changed as the party sees fit, with the permission of the Elections Commission.

#### Section 3 - Subchapter 3: Party Name

A.6.3.1 All party names must follow the university guidelines. Party names should be relevant to ISU and nonviolent should not be offensive or violent in any way to any party or community. Party names may be in any language.

B:6.3.2 No party may include as part of its name, the name of, or reference to, any student, faculty or staff of Idaho State University without presenting the express written permission of that person. Nor <u>under any condition</u> may any party include, or reference, the name of any registered student group or organization.

C.6.3.3 If the Elections Commission determines that the names of parties are similar enough to confuse the voters, the party name registered at the earliest date shall retain the name, and the other party shall choose another.

## Section 4 - Subchapter 4: Party Filing Requirements

A.6.4.1 The party chairperson, or their delegate, must also complete a party filing form, which shall contain the following information:

1. 6.4.1.1 The name of the party

<u>2.6.4.1.2</u> Names and contact information for two persons candidates authorized to act on behalf of the party. One of these two candidates must be mentioned as the chairperson of the party.

3.6.4.1.3 The names of all candidates <u>and their respective college</u>, authorized to <del>run with</del> <u>represent</u> the party for that election.

B.6.4.2 If a party has not filed with the Elections Commission by the due date of the candidate filing form, then all candidates for that party shall be reclassified as independents.

C.6.4.3 A party may file only one candidate for each executive office.

#### Section 5 - Subchapter 5: Party Statement

A.6.5.1 Parties will be allowed a three hundred (300) word party statement in the ASISU Voter's Guide.

B.6.5.2 Parties shall submit their respective party statements and pictures to the Commission at the same time the candidate packet is due before the candidate packet is due.

#### Section 6 - Subchapter 6: Party Campaign Deposits

A.6.6.1 All parties shall submit a one hundred dollar (\$100) refundable posting deposit (not counted as a campaign expense) to the commission by the due date of the candidate filling form, or the party is ineligible to actively campaign for its candidates.

B.6.6.2 This The deposit will be forfeited by the parties that fail to remove their campaign materials by 10:00pm on the day 10:00 pm MST, on the first school day immediately following the end of the voting period.

C.6.6.3 Fines issued by the elections commission will be deducted from the party's deposit.

6.6.4 Refunds of any remaining deposit shall be processed within 5 school days after the voting period concludes.

#### **Section 7 - Subchapter 7:** Endorsements

A.6.7.1 The ASISU logo cannot be used by a candidate or a party on campaign materials.

B:6.7.2 ASISU committees, boards, or programs shall not officially or unofficially endorse candidates.

C.6.7.3 ASISU employees are free to endorse candidates as individuals but may not speak on behalf of the organization when doing so.

ASISU office staff shall not campaign for candidates while at work.

<del>D.</del>6.7.4 Recognized ASISU student organizations and clubs may officially endorse a candidate of their choice, provided the endorsement is issued according to the organization's official rules.

E.6.7.5 ASISU student organizations and clubs may forward any statement by any candidate to their members at the organization's or club's discretion.

F.6.7.6 ASISU student organizations and clubs may not spend any ASISU funds for campaigning purposes.

G.6.7.7 Candidates are required to obtain organization and club endorsement in writing. An Endorsement must be communicated via email to the Elections Commission. In the case of a single entity endorsing more than one candidate or

party, the Elections commission will communicate separately with the entity to ensure that the endorsements are accurately recorded and that there are no discrepancies in the endorsement process.

H.6.7.8 Claiming an endorsement of an individual, group, organization, or party without consent is prohibited and subjected to fines.

<u>H.6.7.9</u> Fusion endorsements (a candidate being endorsed and supported by more than one party) are allowed, but do not expand spending abilities.

K.<u>6.7.10</u> Candidates may not seek endorsements from ISU administration, faculty and staff members.

#### **ARTICLE VII—Chapter 7: THE CANDIDATES' MEETING**

7.1 The Election Commission shall hold a mandatory candidate meeting on a date approved by the senate after the Candidate Filing Period. All candidates are responsible for all information disseminated at the meeting. New rules and information not contained in the Election Code may be presented at the during the Candidates' meeting.

#### Section 1 - Subchapter 2: Function of the Candidates' Meeting

A.7.2.1 To acquaint all candidates with the basic structure, functions and authority of ASISU and of the Election Code.

B.7.2.2 To discuss problems which have arisen in past elections.

€.7.2.3 To discuss the Election Code policies regarding elections, specifically the list of punishable infractions and their respective punishments.

<del>D.</del>7.2.4 To discuss administrative details of the election.

#### Section 2—The Point of No Return

The Point of No Return shall be the point in the meeting when party affiliation and candidates' names on the ballot can no longer be changed.

#### **ARTICLE VIII—Chapter 8:** THE BALLOT

#### Section 1—Subchapter 1: Ballot Order

A.8.1.1 The candidate's party affiliation (if any) shall follow their name on the ballot.

B.The determination of the order in which the candidate names shall appear on the ballot shall be made as follows: 8.1.2 The order of candidate names on the ballot shall be determined as follows:

- 1) Each candidate's name or executive ticket shall be read separately and a number corresponding to their ballot position shall be drawn at random from a container; this number shall be read aloud and recorded by a member of the commission.
  - 8.1.2.1 Each candidate's name or executive ticket shall be read aloud individually.
  - 8.1.2.2 A number corresponding to their ballot position shall be drawn at random from a container.

## 8.1.2.3 This number shall be announced and recorded by a member of the Elections Commission.

#### Section 2—Subchapter 2: Form of Ballot

A.8.2.1 A ballot shall be provided which allows fee paying students to vote for executive tickets and candidates for outreach campus vice presidents (if applicable). The ballot shall allow the voter to vote for up to the maximum number of seats available in the Senate race for their college.

#### **ARTICLE IX—Chapter 9: BALLOT TABULATION**

#### Section 1—Subchapter 1: Ballot Tabulation

A.9.1.1 Ballot tabulation shall commence immediately after the polls close.

B.9.1.2 Ballot tabulation shall be supervised by the Commissioner.

C.9.1.3 After ballot tabulation, the preliminary and uncertified results of the elections election results shall be released by the Commissioner as soon as possible via Social media, the ASISU website, and email to all candidates.

<del>D.</del>9.1.4 The election results for all elected positions, as declared by the Commission, shall become effective, certified, and official after being approved by the ASISU Senate at the first Senate meeting following the election.

E.9.1.5 The election results for all elected positions may be certified separately from other propositions.

#### Section 2—Subchapter 2: Handling of Incomplete and Invalid Votes

A.9.2.1 A vote shall be declared invalid, and excluded from the counting in a particular race if the ballot is blank. either in whole or for a particular race. The invalidity of a vote in one race shall not affect its validity in another race.

B-9.2.2 Valid, but incomplete, ballots shall be considered for the votes that have been cast.

#### Section 3—Subchapter 3: Executive Race

<u>9.3.1</u> The executive ticket winner shall be determined by the traditional winner take all system. The ticket receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected.

#### Section 4—Subchapter 4: Senate Races

<u>9.4.1</u> Senate winners shall be determined by the traditional winner takes all system. Those candidates receiving the highest numbers of votes shall be elected, depending upon the number of Senate seats in each respective College.

#### Section 5—Subchapter 5: Ties

A.9.5.1 In the event of a tie for a contested position, the commission shall hold a one week, run-off election to determine the winner. The run-off election shall be subject to all existing rules and regulations and the Elections Code.

B-9.5.2 The voting dates of all run-off elections shall be determined and publicized by the commission.

#### ARTICLE X - Chapter 10: CAMPAIGN RULES

#### Section 1 – Subchapter 1: Purpose and Authority

<u>10.1.1</u> The rules and regulations set forth in this Article <u>shall</u> govern all ASISU elections. All questions as to the interpretation of the rules and regulations will be brought forth to the commission for specific interpretation. Any violations of rules pursuant to the election will be subject to fines and may result in the removal of the candidate's name from the ballot.

#### Section 2 – Subchapter 2: Temporary Rules

10.2.1 Temporary rules may be implemented by the commission by a majority vote in the commission where an urgent situation necessitates temporary additions, amendments, or a suspension of a portion of this Election Code, provided all candidates are affected equally. Temporary rules shall be emailed by the ASISU Secretary or Elections Commissioner to all candidates within twenty-four (24) hours of the vote.

#### Section 3 – Subchapter 3: Active Campaigning

A.10.3.1 The term 'active campaigning' shall be defined as the distribution of campaign literature, the hanging of signs, holding campaign events, online communications, publications or social networking sites, or similar campaign activities on campus.

B-10.3.2 Active campaigning for all candidates, parties, student organizations, those that support or oppose any ballot questions, or agents of any political

candidate or group shall not begin until after the final Candidates' Meeting is adjourned. Active campaigning shall not be allowed by candidates or parties that have not turned in all of the required election materials and paid the required deposits.

#### Section 4 - Subchapter 4: Posting Rules

## A. <u>10.4.1</u> General Posting Rules

<u>1.10.4.1.1</u> No campaign activity shall be environmentally harmful to any part of ISU grounds or facilities.

2.10.4.1.2 No campaign material shall be attached to any tree or utility pole. No campaign activity shall leave behind any damage to any part of ISU grounds or facilities.

3.10.4.1.3 No campaign material shall be attached to any glass door, safety equipment or any place that would obstruct safe and normal movement.

4.10.4.1.4 Littering on campus is prohibited. Campaign materials such as handbills shall be distributed directly to students.

5.10.4.1.5 Campaign materials shall not be placed on car windshields.

6.10.4.1.6 Campaign posters or other campaign materials shall not cover any other campaign materials that belong to another candidate or party.

7.10.4.1.7 If ground stakes are used for campaign materials, they shall not be larger than two inches in diameter.

8.10.4.1.8 Campaign material shall not be placed within five (5) feet of any border of any sidewalk on campus.

9.10.4.1.9 The candidate is responsible for any damage which may occur from the commission removing signs that are in violation of these election rules.

10.10.4.1.10 In the event a violation results in property damage, candidates will be required to make full financial restitution.

<u>41.10.4.1.11</u> The commission shall present further campaign posters and sign restrictions at the Candidates' Meeting.

12.10.4.1.12 Candidates may construct and distribute campaign material in language other than English, with the understanding that all place-specific limitations to the number of posters will be enforced per candidate, regardless of language.

#### B. 10.4.2 Administration Building

1.10.4.2.1 No signs are allowed in the Administration Building.

#### C.10.4.3 Bennion Student Union

1.10.4.3.1 Posters may be placed on the bulletin boards and brick walls. Table tents are allowed.

#### D.10.4.4 Business Building

1.10.4.5 One (1) poster may be placed on each bulletin board in the stairways. No posters on the windows at the entrances, ONLY the bulletin boards in the stairwells.

#### E.10.4.5 Cadet Field

<u>1.10.4.5.1</u> No campaign material may be placed at cadet field within 25 feet of the Veterans Memorial.

#### <u>F.10.4.6</u> Center for Higher Education

<u>1.10.4.6.1</u> Location of posters will be chosen by the Administrative Assistant for the Dean.

#### -G.10.4.7 College of Education Complex

<u>1.10.4.7.1</u> Candidates may place one (1) poster on the unpainted brick areas in each of the main entryways to the College of Education Building and Albion Hall.

#### H.10.4.8 Dental Clinic

1.10.4.8.1 No posters are allowed in the Dental Clinic.

#### H.10.4.9 Eli Oboler Library

1.10.4.9.1 Nominees may place one (1) small poster on the bulletin board in the student lounge.

#### <del>J.</del>10.4.10 Engineering

4.10.4.10.1 Nominees may place up to two (2) posters on the unpainted brick walls in the main lobby.

#### K.10.4.11 Fine Arts

1.10.4.12 Only one (1) poster may be placed on the main entrance bulletin board.

#### <del>L.</del>10.4.12 Frazier Hall

1.10.4.12.1 No signs are allowed in Frazier Hall.

#### M.10.4.13 Garrison/Turner Cafeteria

1.10.4.13.1 Nominees may place one (1) poster on the unpainted brick wall in the Garrison/Turner Cafeteria.

#### N.10.4.14 Health Sciences Building (Nursing)

1.10.4.14.1 Candidates may place one (1) poster in each of the two foyers on unpainted brick surfaces.

#### O. Holt 10.4.15 ICCU Arena

1.10.4.14.1 No signs are allowed in Holt Arena.

#### P.10.4.16 Idaho Falls Campus

1.10.4.16.1 No ground stakes allowed.

#### Q.10.4.17 Lecture Center

1.10.4..17.1 Candidates may place one (1) poster in each of the two foyers on unpainted brick surfaces.

#### R.10.4.18 Liberal Arts

1.10.4.18.1 Candidates may place up to two (2) posters on each floor. Posters must be placed on the metal strip that runs throughout the building.

## S. 10.4.19 Life Science Building (Biology)

1.10.4.19.1 Up to three (3) flyers may be given to the administrative assistant for the Dean. Location of posters will be chosen by the administrative assistant.

<del>2.</del>10.4.19.2 One poster on each bulletin board is allowed.

#### T.10.4.20 Nichols/Dryer Residence Halls

1.10.4.20.1 No signs are allowed in these buildings.

#### U.10.4.21 Owen/Redfield Residence Halls

1.10.4.21.1 One (1) poster on each of the three bulletin boards. No signs are allowed on the doors or windows.

#### <del>V.</del>10.4.22 Pharmacy

1.10.4.22.1 Signs are allowed on the first-floor bulletin boards: they need to be checked off by a staff member in the Dean's office.

#### W.10.4.22 Physical Science Building(Chemistry)

1.10.4.22.1 Candidates may place posters on the first or second floor, as long as they do not obstruct and/or replace existing signs or posters.

#### X.10.4.23 Physical Science Building (Math, Physics, Geology)

<u>1.10.4.23.1</u> Nominees may place one 91) poster in each of the three main floors entryways to the building. Painted areas are permissible in these entryways only.

#### ¥.10.4.24 Pond Student Union

1.10.4.24.1 Signs cannot be posted on doors, painted walls, or wood surfaces. SIgns are not to be placed on or in front of the Bengal Tiger.

2.10.4.24.2 One poster 8.5"x11" or 11"x17" on the orange magnetic board on the 2nd level Rotunda entrance below the electronic calendar wall.

3.10.4.24.3 One poster 8.5"x11" or 11"x17" on the orange magnetic board across from the mail center on the 1st floor.

4.10.4.24.4 One poster 8.5"x11" or 11"x17" may be hung on the bulletin board located in the entrance near the Outdoor Adventure Program located on the 1st level.

5.10.4.24.5 One 3' x 6' or smaller banner may be hung from the banner wire located in the Bengal Theater Lobby.

6.10.4.24.6 One banner 3' x 6' or smaller may be hung above the Copy Center.

7.10.4.24.7 One poster, one banner, or one large format sign may be hung from any of the first six window panels in the 2nd level Quad Lounge and each panel runs from floor to ceiling and is separated by metal. Items may be placed only in the first six window panels.

1.10.4.24.8 Candidates are not allowed to use table tents.

#### -Z.10.4.25 Pond Student Union Hypostyle

1.10.4.25.1 No signs are allowed in the Hypostyle.

#### AA. 10.4.26 Reed Gymnasium

1.10.4.26.1 Candidates are able to place (1) poster on the bulletin board next to the front desk of Reed Gym on the main floor, as well as (1) poster on the athletic department hallway's bulletin board. Posters may not be placed on any glass or painted walls.

#### BB.10.4.27 Rendezvous

<u>1.10.4.27.1</u> Signs may not be posted on doors, painted walls, or wood surfaces. Posters are allowed on stairway and walkway railings on a first come first serve basis as space is limited. Posters on these fixtures must be secured with string or zip ties (no tape or any other adhesives).

2.10.4.27.2 One poster 8.5"x11" or 11"x17" on the orange magnetic board on the left side of the elevator.

3.10.4.27.3 One banner 3'x10' or smaller sign may be hung on the railings of the walkway which connects the classroom and housing side of Rendezvous. Signs placed here need to be secured with zip ties or heavy-duty string.

4.10.4.27.4 Candidates are not allowed to use table tents.

#### CC. <u>10.4.28</u> Rendezvous (Housing)

<u>1.10.4.28.1</u> Posters are allowed only at the Housing front desk. No posters are allowed on the walls or windows.

#### -DD. 10.4.29 Speech Pathology/Audiology Building

4.10.4.29.1 One (1) poster may be placed on each bulletin board. Contact Amy Bull to set up postings.

#### EE.10.4.30 Student Health Center

1.10.4.30.1 No posters are allowed in the Student Health Center.

#### FF. 10.4.31 Turner Residence Hall

1.10.4.31.1 Nominees may place one (1) poster on each bulletin board in the main lobby. Clear with the housing director, have the posters be dropped off at the housing office.

10.4.32 No postings or campaign materials shall be allowed in builds not stated above unless approval has been obtained from the building manager. As with the above, a complaint from a building manager will result in the offending candidate losing their deposit.

#### Section 5 – Subchapter 5: Campaign Finance Rules and Regulations

#### **A.**10.5.1 **Intent and Def**

4.10.5.1.1 Campaign material is defined as material initiated by a party or candidate, with the intent to contact voters publicly, that explicitly speaks, pleads or argues in favor of a candidate or party.

2.10.5.1.2 Further, materials that are controlled by a candidate's campaign or party that mention a candidate's name for the office a candidate is seeking, shall be defined as explicitly speaking, pleading or arguing in favor of the election of a candidate. It, therefore, shall be included in the definition of campaign material.

3.10.5.1.3 Emails, voluntary labor, and telephone calls will be assessed at a cost of zero.

4:10.5.1.4 Accordingly, material that only explicitly advocates a non-campaign function of a party or does not advocate any function of a party shall not be included in the definition of campaign material.

5.10.5.1.5 Any material produced by a group or organization not run by a candidate or party, which is not controlled by a candidate or party, which does not receive funding from a candidate or party, that is not operating under a specific agreement between the producer of the material and a candidate or party shall not be included in the definition of campaign material. Such independent advocacy shall not be anonymous. All independent advocacy material must clearly indicate who produced and provided funding for the material.

#### B. 10.5.2 Spending Limits

1.10.5.2.1 Executive officer candidates and parties which act in coordination with the candidate are allowed to spend up to one thousand dollars (\$1,000) on their ASISU campaign.

2.10.5.2.2 Senate candidates and parties which act in coordination with their candidate are allowed to spend up to five hundred dollars (\$500) on their ASISU campaigns.

3.10.5.2.3 Candidates for the office of an outreach campus vice president may spend up to five hundred dollars (\$500) on their ASISU campaigns.

#### C. 10.5.3 Reporting of Campaign Expenditures

±:10.5.3.1 It shall be the responsibility of the candidates and their parties which act in coordination with the candidate to record and report expenses used for their campaigns on a Campaign Expenditure Report provided by the commission. Two copies of the Campaign Expenditure Report must be provided to the commission by the candidates and parties.

2.10.5.3.2 All candidates and parties shall provide the commission with a receipt for the purchase of all campaign material within twenty-four (24) hours of the material's use in the campaign.

3.10.5.3.3 If candidates and parties are unable to provide a receipt, they may indicate such and instead provide an estimate of the materials fair market value.

4.10.5.3.4 Receipts must be provided beginning with the Candidate's Meeting and thereafter.

5.10.5.3.5 The commission shall have the responsibility of determining fair market value for any campaign material not accompanied by a receipt.

6.10.5.3.6 Campaign materials that count as part of a candidate's spending must have been produced or authorized by the candidate or party which act in coordination with the candidate.

7.10.5.3.7 Any campaign material advocating more than one candidate shall have its costs divided equally among all candidates listed on the material.

8.10.5.3.8 Receipts must include information on what was purchased and the amount spent.

9.10.5.3.9 When the election ends, each candidate and party must fill out a final Campaign Expenditure Sheet with all necessary receipts that the Commission will process.

#### **Section 6 – Subchapter 6:** Ethical Violations

A.10.6.1 Any person, party, candidate, proponent or opponent of a proposition found to have committed the serious ethical breaches stated in this section shall be subject to fines and or removal of the ballot by the commission.

1.10.6.1.1 Willfully violating a lawful order from the commission.

2.10.6.1.2 Intentionally falsifying information on any commission forms or the Voters' Guide.

3.10.6.1.3 Registering fictitious or bogus party names similar to those already in existence with the intent to create confusion.

4.10.6.1.4 Using ASISU authority, facilities, funds or resources, including the ASISU office, for campaign purposes, including the use of space in the Student Union or other university buildings for the long term or bulk storage of campaign materials.

5.10.6.1.5 Obstructing an investigation by the commission.

6.10.6.1.6 Exceeding the campaign finance spending limits.

7.10.6.1.7 Intentionally misreporting campaign expenditures on the Campaign Expenditure sheet.

8.10.6.1.8 Placing campaign literature in areas where one does not have permission.

9.10.6.1.9 Engaging in any active campaigning as defined in the Election CodeChapter 10 Subchapter 3 before the end of the Candidates' Meeting.

10.10.6.1.10 Systematically or repetitiouslyrepeatedly and willfully destroying, defacing, covering, moving or removing posters, signs, banners, etc. of ASISU groups, candidates or parties.

11.10.6.1.11 Persistently blocking any entrance to a building or space.

12.10.6.1.12 Filing malicious, frivolous or charges in bad faith against any candidate or party. If a candidate or party engages a third party to file such charges, all parties involved shall be held responsible.

13.10.6.1.13 Posting campaign literature of any candidate or party on restricted bulletin boards or any structure or natural feature on campus.

14:10.6.1.14 Willfully placing or leaving campaign material in any university building, including classrooms, computer labs, the library, and on chalkboards.

15.10.6.1.15 Failing to clean up all campaign materials.

#### Section 7—Subchapter 7: Campaign Conduct

A. 10.7.1 All candidates of a party shall be considered equally guilty of a campaign rules violation by an agent of the party acting within the scope of delegated authority.

B. 10.7.2 A candidate, but not their party, shall be considered guilty of a violation of the Elections Code by an agent of that candidate acting within the scope of delegated authority.

C. 10.7.3 A candidate or party may deny the action of any individual who violated the Elections Code by denying said violator is their agent within twenty-four (24) hours after the violation has been discovered and reported by the commission to the party chairperson or candidate.

#### Section 8—Subchapter 8: Enforcement

10.8.1 As with any other violation of the ASISU Election Code, the commission shall be responsible for investigating alleged violations of these rules, imposing fines and punishments, issuing censures and prosecuting serious rules violations which would result with a candidate's name being removed from the ballot. All enforcement must be preceded by a unanimous vote by the Commission. If a fine is imposed, the Commission has the full authority to decide the amount. All enforcement must be communicated with the recipients within 24 hours of the vote.

#### Section 9—Subchapter 9: Polling Stations

10.9.1 No polling stations will be offered during any ASISU election with the exception of official polling stations manned by impartial officials confirmed by the ASISU Senate. The polling officials shall have no party affiliation or vested interest in any outcome of an election. The validity of any polling official shall be determined by the Elections Commission and should be immediately dismissed if any conflict of interest is discovered.

#### **ARTICLE XI—Chapter 11:** ELECTION COMPLAINTS

## Section 1—Subchapter 1: Filing Complaints

<u>11.1.1</u> During the campaigning period and election, any student with standing or candidate has the right to file a complaint in regard to the conduct of election procedures to the Elections Commission. Each complaint filed must be evaluated by the Commission within three (3) days of submission and must vote on a decision on how to move forward with the complaint. The decision must be then communicated to the submitter within 24 hours of the decision.

#### Section 2—Subchapter 2: Commission Authority

11.2.1 If the commission finds that a candidate or party has consistently and repeatedly violated the Election Code and other campaign rules and regulations, the commission has the authority regarding the reparations, including disqualification of candidates and parties. A copy of the official charges shall also be submitted within 24 hours of the vote to the candidate or party chairperson. More information can be found in Article X, Section 8.

#### Section 3—Subchapter 3: Contesting Election Results

<u>11.3.1</u> Any candidate who wishes to contest the election results must submit in writing an explanation of the grievance to the commission within three (3) school days of the official announcement of the election results by the commission.

#### **ARTICLE XII—Chapter 12: PROPOSITIONS**

#### Section 1—Subchapter 1: Definitions

A.12.1.1 A proposition is an initiative or referendum as defined in the ASISU Constitution in Article Chapter X 12.

B-12.1.2 A proposition may be a constitutional amendment, creation of a bylaw, a statement of position of the student body, or any other poll that is binding or non-binding on the ASISU.

#### Section 2—Subchapter 2: Primary Proponents of a Proposition

A.12.2.1 A primary proponent of a proposition is any student that submits an initiative petition to the commission. The primary proponent is responsible for the conduct of the campaign in support of the proposition.

B-12.2.2 If the proposition is a referendum, the Senate sponsors and/or the ASISU President shall be the primary proponents.

#### Section 3—Subchapter 3: Proponents of a Proposition

<u>12.3.1</u> A proponent of a proposition is any person, including the primary proponents of a proposition, who acts in support of a proposition by delegation, either explicitly or implicitly, of one or more of the primary proponents of said proposition. This shall include any person who circulates or attempts to circulate an initiative petition. This shall not be construed as to include individuals who act in support of a proposition independently and without the knowledge of the primary proponents.

#### Section 4—Subchapter 4: Primary Opponent of a Proposition

A.12.4.1 After the verification of an initiative petition or referendum, the commissioner shall inform the following individuals, in the following order, that they may claim the role of primary opponent.

1.12.4.1.1 ASISU president

<del>2.</del>12.4.1.2 All other ASISU elected officers

3.12.4.1.3 Any registered party chairpersons

4.12.4.1.4 Any registered student

B-12.4.2 The primary opponent may then submit to the commission a statement for the Voters' Guide.

#### Section 5—Subchapter 5: Opponents of a Proposition

<u>12.5.1</u> An opponent of a proposition is any person, including the primary opponent, who acts in opposition to a proposition by delegation, either explicitly or implicitly, of one or more of the primary proponents of that proposition. This

shall not be construed as to include individuals who act in opposition to a proposition independently and without the knowledge of the primary opponent.

#### Section 6—Subchapter 6: Proposition Statement

A.12.6.1 A statement of each proposition must appear on the ballot and be no more than two (2) sentences in length.

B.12.6.2 The first sentence may state the issue to be voted on in an unbiased manner. The last sentence shall be a neutrally worded question to which an answer of "yes" or "no" is appropriate.

DATE OF FIRST INTRODUCTION: 02/05/2025		
SENATE ACTION:	DATE:	02/05/2025
ASISU PRESIDENT:	DATE:	02/05/2025
ASISU SECRETARY:	DATE:	02/05/2025