Central Student Government

Constitutional Amendment 13-003

Executive Branch Transparency Act

Resolution Information

Sponsor(s)	Dhanya Sethuraman, LSA, Chair of Ethics Adam Thompson, Engineering, Vice Chair of Ethics Taylor Quick, Deputy SGC Paige Cook, Non-Traditional Ex-Officio Mario M. Thaqi, LSA, Chair of Finance
External author(s)	
Endorser(s)	
Long title	A Constitutional Amendment to Require the Executive Branch to Publish Reports/ Minutes on Their Meetings
Author Summary	This resolution amends both the All-Campus Constitution and the Compiled Code and aims to increase the transparency of the Central Executive by requiring all future administrations' Executive Committee and Cabinet reports to be posted on the CSG Website.

Assembly Information (to be completed by the Speaker)

Requirements	Reading in two separate meetings; simple majority vote; Presidential approval.
Committees	**Rules, Resolutions**

Committee Information (to be completed by the respective Committee Chairs)

Committee (if applicable)	**Passed For First Reads (Y/N; Initials)**	**Passed For Second Reads (Y/N; Initials)**
Rules	Y; LBR	
Finance		
Communications		
Resolutions	Y; JWS	

Attest

_____
Jarek Schmanski, LSA
Speaker of the Assembly

Yes: No: Abstain: Date: ## Month YYYY

Presidential Approval

_____ _____
Meera Herle, Ford Date

Section 1.

The Central Student Government Assembly finds and declares all of the following:

WHEREAS,
The Executive Branch has posted Cabinet Minutes and Executive Committee meeting minutes to the Central Student Government website in previous administrations; and,

WHEREAS,
This practice allows for the student body to access the progress and discussions made by the Executive Branch; and,

WHEREAS,
There is no consistent rule on the requirements of sharing Executive meeting reports, thereby leaving this mode of transparency to the hands of each CSG administration; and,

WHEREAS,
Standardized documentation and publication of Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting minutes would hold The Central Executive at the same standards that the Central Legislature[1] is required to uphold; and,

WHEREAS,
This resolution amends the All-Campus Constitution[2] by adding specific requirements of the Executive Branch for publishing reports/minutes (see Appendix A), and additionally includes a Compiled Code[3] amendment that specifies the consequences of violations of these document retention and publication policies (see Appendix B).

Section 2.

THEREFORE it is, by the Students of the University of Michigan, through Central Student Government:

RESOLVED,
That the amendment contained within Appendix A is proposed to the students in the March 2024 election in the form of the following question, where the text "an amendment" will hyperlink to a PDF of Appendix A.

The CSG Assembly has requested your approval on an amendment to the All-Campus Constitution. This is what the proposed amendment would do:

1. Require the CSG Executive Branch to publish Cabinet meeting reports and Executive Committee meeting minutes to the public through the Central Student Government Website.

Do you support these changes to the All-Campus Constitution? Y/N

AND FURTHER RESOLVED,
That this amendment, upon adoption by the student body and the certification of the election where it is considered, shall apply to those executives elected in the March 2024 elections or appointed thereafter, and all future executive officeholders.

AND FINALLY RESOLVED,
That the Compiled Code is amended in accordance to Appendix B.

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[1] Lines 106-107, Constitution of the University of Michigan Ann Arbor Campus Student Body
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gCR_W3UxUww-9it0JtuJAKmCymL-l31z/view?pli=1
[2] Constitution of the University of Michigan Ann Arbor Campus Student Body
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gCR_W3UxUww-9it0JtuJAKmCymL-l31z/view
[3] Compiled Code: Central Student Government of the University of Michigan
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1N0-z5b9b6rYDM2pESIhzfEBJ3WNbxv-fvEWr8N-zQ1w/edit

Appendix A:

Constitution of the University of Michigan Ann Arbor Campus Student Body

Article III

The Central Executive

SECTION 4. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CABINET. The Executive may create a Cabinet consisting of the President, Vice President, Treasurer, Student General Counsel, Speaker of the Assembly, and other Executive officers. This Cabinet may serve as the President and Vice President's advisors. The Cabinet is part of a larger Executive Committee, which includes all members of the Executive Branch and its various Commissions and task forces.

The Cabinet must produce, publish, and maintain a Cabinet Register as an account of all Cabinet proceedings. The Register must minimally include attendance and reports of all discussions. This Register must be available to all members of all branches of Central Student Government and published to the public through the University of Michigan Central Student Government Website within seven days of the Cabinet proceeding.

The Executive Committee must also produce, publish, and maintain an Executive Committee Register as an account of all Executive Committee proceedings. The Register must minimally include minutes, attendance, and reports. This Register must be available to all members of all branches of Central Student Government, and published publicly through the University of Michigan Central Student Government Website within seven days of the Executive Committee proceeding.

Appendix B:

Compiled Code: Central Student Government of the University of Michigan

Article IX: Code of Conduct and Ethics

4. Transparency of the Central Executive.

4.1. Executive Committee/ Cabinet Transparency Violations. Negligent or willful violations of the document retention policy stated in Article III, Section 4 of the Constitution constitutes an ethics violation regardless of when the violation was made.