Senate

of the

Student Government Association

of

The Johns Hopkins University

{ *S. Bill 21-22, XX* }

A Bill Amending the Constitution

Introduced By: President **Nathan Mudrak** of the Senior Class and
Executive Secretary **Elaina Regier** and
considered this **12th** day of **April** in the Year **2022**

Sponsored By: Senator **Harvey McGuinness** of the Sophomore Class and
President **Kobi Khong** of the Sophomore Class

Committee approval **waived** by the Executive Vice President

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Student Government Association of The Johns Hopkins University assembled that:

SECTION 1. TITLE.

This Act may be referred to as the "Spring 2022 Constitutional Amendments"

SECTION 2. AMENDMENTS

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Rationale	
Table of Contents altered to reflect amendment articles	

PREAMBLE	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
Preamble We, the Undergraduates of the Krieger School of Arts and Sciences and the Whiting School of Engineering, realizing	**Preamble** We, the Undergraduates of the Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences and the G.W.C. Whiting School of Engineering, realizing the

the necessity for student self-governance and understanding the importance of strengthening student unity, representing student interests, and providing a forum for the exchange of ideas, hereby establish this Constitution.	necessity for student self-governance and understanding the importance of strengthening student unity, representing student interests, and providing a forum for the exchange of ideas, hereby establish this Constitution.
Rationale	
Making wording consistent across the constitution.	

ARTICLE #1 - BILL OF RIGHTS	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
All persons enrolled as undergraduates in the Homewood Divisions of the Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences and the G.W.C. Whiting School of Engineering have equal rights as students under this Constitution, as do persons who may be extended such status by the Student Government Association. 1. The SGA will not restrict membership and/or activity by reason of age, citizenship, disability, gender, race, religion, political affiliation, or sexual orientation. 2. ~~44~~ 3. Students have a right to run or to be appointed to the SGA, provided that they shall be an ~~full-time~~ undergraduate student~~, taking at least 12 undergraduate credits,~~ throughout the following term of office. 4. Students have a right to attend all	All persons enrolled as undergraduates in the Homewood Divisions of the Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences and the G.W.C. Whiting School of Engineering have equal rights as students under this Constitution, as do persons who may be extended such status by the Student Government Association (SGA). 1. The SGA will not restrict membership and/or activity by reason of age, citizenship, disability, gender, race, religion, political affiliation, or sexual orientation. 2. Students have a right to run or to be appointed to the SGA, provided that they shall be an undergraduate student in the Homewood Divisions of the Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences or the G.W.C. Whiting School of Engineering throughout the following term of office. 3. Students have a right to attend all meetings of the SGA, and all minutes

meetings of the SGA, and all minutes and proceedings of the SGA shall be open to student inspection, except those deemed secure by a closed session motion by the Senate. ~~5. Students have a right to veto any decisions reached by the SGA by means of student referenda.~~ 6. Students have a right to free speech in all matters relating to the SGA. The spirit of this sentiment shall be extended to all student activities on the Homewood campus.	and proceedings of the SGA shall be open to student inspection, except those deemed secure by a closed session motion by the Senate. 4. Students have a right to free speech in all matters relating to the SGA. The spirit of this sentiment shall be extended to all student activities on the Homewood campus.
Rationale	
Part 2: Not consistent with our current policies for groups allowed to be selective (i.e. performing arts groups) Part 3: Part-time undergraduates currently have no representation. Additionally part-time students can be students who would otherwise be full-time, except they are now on a medical leave, have been granted accommodations, are struggling academically, etc. It is important that we enfranchise and give representation to all populations of our student body. We have the opportunity to do this for part-time students. Part 5: Student referenda moved to bylaws, as they are no longer needed for constitutional amendments.	

ARTICLE # 3 - NAME, AUTHORITY, AND MEMBERSHIP	
Section # 1- NAME	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
The official governing body of the Undergraduates shall be referred to as the Student Government Association (SGA).	The official governing body of the Homewood Undergraduates shall be referred to as the Student Government Association at Johns Hopkins University (SGA).
Rationale	
Standardize language.	

ARTICLE # 3 - NAME, AUTHORITY, AND MEMBERSHIP	
Section # 1- PURPOSE	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
The purpose of the SGA is to protect and improve the rights, opportunities, and quality of life for every undergraduate student at the Johns Hopkins University.	The purpose of the SGA is to protect and improve the rights, opportunities, and quality of life for every Homewood undergraduate student at the Johns Hopkins University.
Rationale	
Standardize language.	

ARTICLE # 2 - NAME, AUTHORITY, AND MEMBERSHIP	
Section # 3 - AUTHORITY AND SUPREMACY	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
1. The authority of SGA is derived from the students of the Johns Hopkins University and collectively recognized by the University President and other administrators. 2. This Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Procedural Rules shall govern the SGA. 3. This Constitution shall supersede all other governing devices of student organizations, commissions, and committees. 4. The SGA shall be the principal representative body of the undergraduates of the Krieger and	1. The authority of SGA is derived from the students of the Johns Hopkins University and collectively recognized by the University President and other administrators. 2. This Constitution, Bylaws, and Senate Procedural Rules Bill shall govern the SGA. 3. This Constitution shall supersede all other governing devices of student organizations, commissions, and committees. 4. The SGA shall be the principal representative body of the undergraduates of the Krieger and

Whiting Schools. 5. No student group within the jurisdiction of the SGA shall enact a constitution, bylaws, or any legislation which conflicts or supersedes the authority of the SGA.	Whiting Schools. 5. No student group within the jurisdiction of the SGA shall enact a constitution, bylaws, or any legislation which conflicts or supersedes the authority of the SGA.
Rationale	
Addition of word “bill”.	

ARTICLE # 2- NAME, AUTHORITY, AND MEMBERSHIP	
Section # 4- MEMBERSHIP	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
1. The SGA shall be composed of the legislative branch, executive branch, and judicial branch. 2. No student may serve as a member of more than one branch. 3. A student may run for or be appointed to an office, provided that they maintain a 2.5 overall GPA and are a full-time undergraduate student throughout their term of office. a. Full-time undergraduate students are defined as a course load that includes 12 full time undergraduate credits. 4. Terms of Student Senate and Executive Branch members shall end on the date of annual inauguration ceremony of the new SGA, and the terms of their successors shall then begin.	1. The SGA shall be composed of the legislative branch, executive branch, and judicial branch. 2. No student may serve as a member of more than one branch. 3. A student may run for or be appointed to an office, provided that they maintain a 2.5 overall GPA and are an undergraduate student in the Homewood Divisions of the Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts and Sciences or the G.W.C. Whiting School of Engineering throughout their term of office. 4. Terms of Student Senate and Executive Branch members shall end on the date of the annual inauguration ceremony of the new SGA, and the terms of their successors shall then begin.
Rationale	

Standardizes language.

ARTICLE # 3- EXECUTIVE BRANCH	
Section # 1- STRUCTURE AND BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
The Executive Board shall serve as the internal governing body of the SGA. All executive power shall be invested in the Executive Branch. Such power involves day-to-day affairs of the SGA~~,~~ and carrying out the instructions of the Senate. All executive officers serve as ex-officio members of the Senate, ~~with the exception of the Vice President, who is the Presiding Officer, and who shall vote only in the case of a tie. The Executive Branch shall be composed of the following four members:~~ ~~1. Executive President~~ a. Shall serve as the spokesperson of the Student Body ~~b. Shall ensure the efficient operation of the entire SGA and shall~~ faithfully execute acts of the Senate ~~c. Shall meet with representatives of the Dean of Student Life's office on a regular basis~~ ~~d. Shall convene Executive Board meetings on a weekly basis~~	The Executive branch shall serve as the internal governing body of the SGA. All executive power shall be invested in the Executive Branch. Such power involves day-to-day affairs of the SGA and carrying out the instructions of the Senate. All executive officers serve as non-voting ex-officio members of the Senate. The Executive Branch shall be composed of the Homewood Undergraduate Student Body President, hereafter referred to as the Student Body President, and the President's Cabinet. The Student Body President shall serve as the spokesperson of the Undergraduate Student Body at Homewood and faithfully execute acts of the Senate. The Student Body President shall have a President's Cabinet to advise them on all matters related to the Student Government Association. In addition to advising the Student Body President through regular meetings, the President's Cabinet shall have the following responsibilities:

Rationale	
Titles updated to better reflect constituencies represented: Homewood Undergraduate Student Body President. Establishes a formal "President's Cabinet", fulfilling the wish of SGA members both to have this specific institution, and to have names for bodies more reflective of their formal nature. Removes the requirement to "ensure the efficient operation of the entire SGA", as they have little oversight over the actions of the judicial and legislative branches.	

ARTICLE # 3- EXECUTIVE BRANCH	
Section # 1- STRUCTURE AND BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
2. ~~Executive~~ Vice President a. Shall assist the President in all their duties b. Shall succeed the President in case of their impeachment or resignation ~~c. Shall preside over the Senate and set its agenda~~ d. Shall accompany the Executive President to meetings with administrators when necessary	3. Vice President a. Shall assist the President in all their duties b. Shall succeed the President in case of their impeachment or resignation c. Shall accompany the Student Body President to meetings with administrators when necessary d. Shall ensure the President's Cabinet and the Senate are making progress towards the goals set at the beginning of the administration
Rationale	
Moves the duty of setting the agenda and presiding over general body meetings to a President of the Senate elected from amongst its members, ensuring the agenda and actions of the legislature matches the will of the elected legislature. Establishes a more limited SGA "efficiency" requirement for the VP, working to ensure the areas in which the executive branch regularly interacts with are functioning well, while also not overburdening	

the Executive President with this role nor requiring the VP works to ensure efficiency of areas the VP has little engagement with.

ARTICLE # 3- EXECUTIVE BRANCH	
Section # 1- STRUCTURE AND BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
4. Executive Secretary a. ~~Shall be responsible for maintenance of all SGA email lists and shall serve as the point of contact for all SGA communications.~~ b. Shall keep detailed minutes of each meeting and shall take a roll call of attendance and votes. ~~c. Shall maintain the SGA website and social media and ensure it is up-to-date~~	3. Secretary a. Shall be responsible for the creation and maintenance of internal SGA infrastructure b. Shall keep detailed minutes of each meeting and shall take a roll call of attendance and votes. c. Shall be responsible for all record-keeping in SGA d. Shall have the power to appoint an Assistant Secretary, subject to the confirmation of a ⅔ vote of the Senate. i. The Assistant Secretary shall assist the Secretary in fulfilling their duties, although the Executive Secretary shall have the final say in all secretarial matters.
Rationale	

Roles broadened to be more flexible to future changes in the needs of the Senate in the interest of the organization's sustainability. Explicitly puts the Secretary in charge of record-keeping, helping to maintain institutional memory. Establishes an assistant secretary rule to help with minute taking, which can be very taxing. SGA social media and website oversight moves to a new position, outlined below.

ARTICLE # 3- EXECUTIVE BRANCH	
Section # 1- STRUCTURE AND BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
3. Executive Treasurer a. Shall work with the Finance Committee to formulate an annual budget for the SGA b. Shall assist with the funding ~~and/or recognition process~~ of student groups c. Shall act as the financial officer of the SGA, keeping al of its ledgers and coordinating with the Finance Committee	4. Treasurer a. Shall work with the Finance Committee to formulate an annual budget for the SGA b. Shall assist with the funding of student groups c. Shall act as the financial officer of the SGA, keeping all of its ledgers and coordinating with the Finance Committee
Rationale	
Updated to reflect the current role of the treasurer. Fixes spelling error.	

ARTICLE # 3- EXECUTIVE BRANCH	
Section # 1- STRUCTURE AND BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES	
INFO	
Current	Proposed

	5. Director of Social Affairs a. Shall appoint and chair the Communications and Marketing Commission, composed as outlined in the Bylaws, which will be tasked with all matters related to the marketing and promotion of the SGA, including but not limited to i. Social media management ii. Website maintenance and construction iii. Graphic design. b. Shall be responsible for maintenance of all SGA email lists and shall serve as the point of contact for all SGA communications.
Rationale	
Elevated the CMC and its appointed chair to a role in the President's Cabinet, ensuring that regular communication with the undergraduate student body is a priority of the SGA, especially its Executive Branch which is charged with conducting the "day-to-day affairs of the SGA"	

ARTICLE # 3- EXECUTIVE BRANCH	
Section # 1- STRUCTURE AND BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
	6. Director of Research a. Shall appoint and chair the Policy Research and Development Commission, composed as outlined in the Bylaws, which will i. Provide background research and policy advisement to senators at

	their request ii. Compose policy reports to be published with the majority consent of the Senate. b. Shall refer policy reports to the Student Body President to deliver to relevant administration if applicable
Rationale	
Elevates the PRDC and its appointed chair to a role in the President's Cabinet, ensuring that regular policy research, and informed decision-making, is a priority of the SGA. Also gives us another way SGA can impact campus policies – publishing policy reports with Senate consent.	

ARTICLE # 3- EXECUTIVE BRANCH	
Section # 1- STRUCTURE AND BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES	
INFO	
TAKES EFFECT: With elections of the 2023-2024 SGA administration	
Current	Proposed
	7. Chair of Programming a. Shall oversee the executive team of SGA's Class Programming Councils – which are tasked with providing regular programming and class-specific events. These councils will not be members of the President's Cabinet. i. Class programming councils shall be led by an executive team consisting of a Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer, elected via a class-wide election. 1. Elections for the Class Programming Council Executive Teams shall be administered by the CSE, with

	roles given to those who receive the greatest plurality of votes. 2. One's class is determined using the institutional "student classification" definition, not one's graduation year. For instance, a student who entered the university in 2019, but is graduating in 2022, would still be considered a junior for the purpose of SGA 2021-2022 elections. 3. Additional members of each class programming council can be appointed by the three-person class programming council executive team, subject to confirmation by a majority of the Senate. b. Shall facilitate collaboration both amongst the class programming councils and amongst other programming bodies. c. Shall be in regular communication with organizations providing programming to the student body to keep SGA apprised on upcoming events and to facilitate co-sponsorship opportunities for the Senate.

Rationale	
Moves most programming duties to a separate section of the SGA, housed under the Executive Branch. Class programming council executive teams remain elected, but are separated from legislation focused "class representatives". This allows students wishing to join SGA to choose whether they wish to focus on class-specific programming or legislation/advocacy. Crafts an explicit duty for a member of SGA to be in communication with other programming bodies, and to actively pursue SGA co-sponsorship of others' events, instead of waiting for those groups to come to us. Defines "class year" for the purpose of SGA elections. Ensures SGA is kept up-to-date on upcoming campus events	

ARTICLE # 3- EXECUTIVE BRANCH	
Section # 1- STRUCTURE AND BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
	The Student Body President shall appoint the Director of Social Affairs and Director of Research and have the freedom to appoint additional cabinet members at their discretion. All other positions of the Cabinet shall be elected by the student body through an election administered by the CSE. While Directors, the Chair of Programming, and the Class Council Executive Teams are considered members of the Executive Branch, appointed members on the Commissions and Councils they oversee are not. As such, these members remain eligible for positions in other SGA branches.
Rationale	
These positions are primarily skill based; as such, they should undergo an application process instead of an election process wherein technical proficiency is less able to be assessed. The President's Cabinet should inherently reflect the priorities of the President; as such, they are empowered to shape it with additional members in ways that best match their current initiatives. Allows non-exec members of PRDC, CMC, and Class programming Councils to take other SGA roles.	

ARTICLE # 4 - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH	
Section #1 - STRUCTURE	
TAKES EFFECT: With elections of the 2023-2024 SGA administration	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
The Legislative Branch shall be composed of the Student Senate and shall meet at least once a week. ~~1. The Senate shall be presided over by the Vice President, who shall have a vote only when a tie exists.~~ ~~2. The Senate shall have 28 members, 7 of whom shall be elected from each class for a one year term, and each shall have one vote and the power to introduce legislation.~~ ~~3. The top six candidates who gain the most votes shall be elected as Senators.~~ ~~4. There shall be a separate Class President position,~~ who shall be the primary class representative and must run as a separate position on the ballot, but still be a Senator for the intent of the Senate.	The Legislative Branch shall be composed of the Student Senate and shall meet at least once a week during the fall and spring semesters. The Senate shall be comprised of the following representatives, elected from amongst their constituent groups: 1. Five Class Senators from each graduating class, totalling twenty class representatives. a. One of these representatives, who shall be the primary class representative and must run as a separate position on the ballot, shall be chosen by a classwide election for "Class President". This position remains that of a Senator for the intent of the Senate. b. The remaining four representatives shall be chosen by a concurrent classwide election for "Class Senators". c. Class representatives may serve as non-voting ex-officio members of their Class Programming Council if they so choose. 2. Seven Academic Senators from the Krieger School and Five Academic Senators from the Whiting school, totaling twelve representatives. 3. One Senator from each category of student organizations SGA recognizes, elected from amongst the student body, totalling nine representatives.

	4. A Chair of each SGA Caucus shall be elected from amongst the student body, and be a Senator in the Senate, if the following conditions are met:. a. The caucus must have been established in the SGA Bylaws prior to January 1st of the election year. b. The caucus must remain in existence at the time of elections. Representatives shall be chosen by raw vote total within each election (i.e. the top five representatives from each school are chosen).
Rationale	
Meeting timeline updated to accommodate school breaks. The Senate considers legislation that impacts all students, frequently independent of the class year they are in. As class representatives would no longer be engaged in programming, the only reason to elect from amongst the class is to bring class-specific viewpoints to the Senate. However, we can ensure representation of other viewpoints in additional ways, through additional elected positions representing distinct organizations, identities, and academic schools. Expands the size of the Senate to increase our impact. Maintains a symbolic “Class President” for speeches, outreach, etc.	

ARTICLE # 4 - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH	
Section # 1 - STRUCTURE	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
	The Legislative Branch shall also have the authority to appoint a Senate Parliamentarian with the majority consent of the Senate. The Senate Parliamentarian shall be tasked with knowing and maintaining the Senate’s adherence to Robert’s Rules of Order and all governing documents of the SGA. The President of the Senate shall oversee this appointment process.
Rationale	

Establishes a Parliamentarian role to ensure efficient meetings and successful knowledge sharing about SGA procedures/guiding documents.

ARTICLE # 4 - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH	
Section # 2 - PRESIDING OFFICER	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
	The President and Vice President of the Senate shall be elected from amongst its members at the first Senate meeting following inauguration. 1. The President of the Senate shall preside over the meeting except in their absence or recusal, in which case the Vice President of the Senate shall chair the meeting. The chair of the meeting is hereafter referred to as the Presiding Officer. 2. The Vice President of the Senate shall be charged with facilitating communication between SGA positions and with fostering community amongst the membership. 3. In both cases, the election for President and Vice President of the Senate shall be facilitated by the Student Body President or, in their absence, the next position in the line of succession outlined in Article VIII Section Six. 4. At any time, a senator can motion for the re-election of the President or Vice President of the Senate. In such cases, the President of the Senate shall be granted five minutes to give their position on the matter. Thereafter, a vote to enable re-election shall be had amongst the Senate, facilitated by a JHU staff member. If the majority consent of

	the Senate for a re-election is reached, such an election shall take place through the same procedure as outlined in Section Two Part 3. 5. The Presiding Officer shall have a vote in matters of the Senate only when a tie exists. 6. After their election, the President of the Senate shall serve as a non-voting ex-officio member of the President's Cabinet, and shall have the following roles and responsibilities: a. Shall preside over the Senate and set its agenda b. Shall review legislation prior to adding it to the agenda c. Shall refer legislation to the appropriate committee
Rationale	
Moves the chair of the Senate to be a member of the legislature, ensuring that the agenda and operations of the Senate reflect the views of the Senate. Enables a more flexible chairing process. Ensures better Senate-Exec communication by putting a member of the Legislature in meetings of the President's Cabinet in a non-voting capacity.	

ARTICLE # 4 - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH	
Section # 2 - BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
1. All legislative power shall be invested in the Senate. 2. ~~The Senate shall deal with all matters of policy, both internal and external, relating to the undergraduates of the university.~~ 3. The Senate shall pass an annual Rules Bill to govern special rules of each session. 4. The Senate shall have jurisdiction over but not limited to: the appointment process of groups and finance, constitutional affairs, student	Each senator shall have equal authority to cast votes and to introduce legislation during meetings of the Senate. No senator shall be restricted in their work on the basis of the constituent group from which they were elected. 1. All legislative power shall be invested in the Senate. 2. The Senate shall pass an annual Senate Procedural Rules Bill to govern special rules of each administration. 3. The Senate shall have jurisdiction over but not limited to: the

life, academic affairs. 5. ~~Proxy voting is not allowed; members must be physically present in meeting in order to vote.~~ 6. ~~The Senate, in the spirit of open meetings, shall keep all votes public and shall only enter Closed Session to deliberate upon Impeachment and other sensitive matters deemed necessary by the Senate.~~ 7. ~~All documents, minutes and proceedings of the Senate shall be open to the public for inspection, except those from closed meetings.~~	appointment process of groups and finance, constitutional affairs, student life, and academic affairs.
Rationale	
Updated to reflect the Executive Branch's role in policy. Explicitly makes clear that SGA senators retain the capacity to work in all legislative areas, independent of the constituency they represent. Ensures members can act where they feel they can have the greatest positive impact. Moves rules to the Special Rules section.	

ARTICLE # 4 - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH	
Section # 3 - ATTENDANCE	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
~~1. The Class President and Senators shall have specific duties, as outlined in the Bylaws.~~ ~~2. Each SGA member is granted excused absences for the Senate, Committee or Class Council meetings. The Executive Vice President, Class President, or Committee Chair shall grant these excused absences.~~ a. If a member of the SGA misses 2 unexcused meetings	1. <u>Attendance at Senate and Committee meetings is expected of Senators, and excused absences shall be granted at the discretion of the chair of the meeting for extenuating circumstances.</u> a. If a member of the SGA misses 2 unexcused meetings per semester, they are automatically subject to impeachment. b. If the member misses a total of 4 unexcused meetings per semester, they are automatically

per semester, they are automatically subject to impeachment. b. If the member misses a total of 4 unexcused meetings per semester, they are automatically removed from the SGA. ~~3. The annual Rules Bill will specify the process by which an "unexcused" or "excused" absence will be determined.~~	removed from the SGA. 2. Attendance at another SGA event beyond the required Senate and Committee meetings can be required by the President of the Senate, but this requirement can be overturned by a ⅔ vote of the Senate. a. Further, in such cases, legitimate, previously held time conflicts shall be accommodated with an excused absence.
Rationale	
Removes points not relevant to attendance. Establishes more general "meeting chair" language to reflect all SGA bodies. Establishes a mechanism for attendance to be required at other events in which SGA has a significant impact, such as dinners with administrators or important town halls.	

ARTICLE # 4 - LEGISLATIVE BRANCH	
Section # 5 - SPECIAL RULES	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
1. All SGA meetings are open to the public except meetings that are closed by 2/3 (two thirds) of the Senate.	1. Proxy voting is not allowed; members must be physically present in meeting in order to vote. 2. All SGA meetings are open to the public except meetings that are closed by 2/3 (two thirds) of the Senate. 3. The Senate, in the spirit of open meetings, shall keep all votes public and shall only enter Closed Session to deliberate upon Impeachment and other sensitive matters deemed necessary by the Senate. 4. All documents, minutes, and proceedings of the Senate shall be open to the public for inspection, except those from closed meetings. 5. The Senate shall follow the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order to facilitate efficient communication

	in Senate General Body Meetings, unless suspended by a ⅔ vote of the Senate.
Rationale	
Moves the rules previously found in "Basic Responsibilities" section to the Rules section. Officially establishes Robert's Rules of Order during GBMs.	

ARTICLE # 5 - JUDICIAL BRANCH	
Section # 1 - STRUCTURE	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
The Judicial Branch shall have jurisdiction on all matters relating to the SGA, including SGA approved groups. 1. Judicial shall be an independent branch, composed of five Justices, who shall elect a Chief Justice amongst them. 2. Appointments to Judicial shall be proposed by the SGA President, upon the advice of the senate, and subject to the approval of 2/3 (two-thirds) of the Senate.	The Judicial Branch shall have jurisdiction on all matters relating to the SGA, including SGA-approved groups and their internal disputes. 1. Judicial shall be an independent branch, composed of: 1. The Judiciary Board, which shall be composed of five Justices, who shall elect a Chief Justice amongst them. a. Provided that Justices remain undergraduates of KSAS or WSE, they shall serve their term until resignation. b. Appointments to the Judicial Branch shall be proposed by the Student Body President, upon the advice of the Senate, and subject to the approval of 2/3 (two-thirds) of the Senate. 2. The Committee on Student Elections (CSE), which shall be composed of seven

	members who shall elect a Chairperson amongst them. The CSE shall be responsible for facilitating elections for all elected SGA roles. a. Appointments to the CSE shall be proposed by the Judiciary, upon the advice of the senate, and subject to the approval of 2/3 (two-thirds) of the Senate. b. Current SGA members are ineligible to be members of the CSE. c. CSE members shall serve for one academic year. 3. Membership of the Judicial Branch is detailed in Article 2, Section 4: Membership 4. Resignations of Judicial Branch members shall follow the details in Article VIII.
Rationale	
Moves all relevant information to the Judiciary Board under that subheading, improving readability. Moves the CSE under the Judiciary, giving it a clear home in SGA's organizational structure.	

ARTICLE # 5 - JUDICIAL BRANCH	
Section # 2 - BASIC RESPONSIBILITIES	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
~~1. Provided that Justices remain full-time undergraduates of KSAS or WSE, they shall serve their term until resignation.~~ ~~a. Membership of~~	1. The Judicial Branch shall operate according to its own Rules and Guidelines. 2. The Judiciary Board shall be responsible for interpreting the Constitution and

~~the Judicial Branch is detailed in Article 2, Section 4: Membership~~ ~~b. Resignations of Judicial Branch members shall follow the details in Article IX.~~ 2. Shall be responsible for interpreting the Constitution and Bylaws, enforcing election procedures, and serve as the final avenue of appeal for all matters relating to the SGA. 3. The Judicial Branch shall operate according to its own Rules and Guidelines.	Bylaws, enforcing election procedures, and serve as the final avenue of appeal for all matters relating to the SGA. 3. The CSE shall operate according to its own Constitution and Election Rules and shall be free from SGA interference during election periods. a. Such rules may limit free speech rights of candidates during election periods, but not in a manner that disrupts a campaign atmosphere. b. The SGA Judiciary Board shall handle appeals of CSE decisions.
Rationale	
Reorganized for readability and to accommodate the reorganization of CSE.	

ARTICLE # 5 - JUDICIAL BRANCH	
Section # 3 - JUDICIAL BRANCH DECISIONS	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
1. Decisions made by the Judicial Branch on matters relating to the Senate, Executive Board, or election procedures may be encouraged for	1. Decisions made by the Judicial Branch on matters relating to the Senate, Executive Branch, or election procedures may be encouraged for reconsideration by either a ⅔ vote from the Senate or from a petition containing signatures from 15% of the

reconsideration by a student referendum. a. In such an instance, the referendum may be approved by either a 2/3 (two-thirds) vote from the Senate or from a petition containing signatures from 15% of the undergraduate student body.	Homewood undergraduate student body.
Rationale	
Gives a way for the Senate to more easily signal displeasure with a Judiciary ruling, while also protecting their independence. Further, protects guiding documents of the SGA from misinterpretation by the general undergraduate student body.	

ARTICLE #6 - AD-HOC AND STANDING COMMITTEES	
Section # 1 - STANDING COMMITTEES	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
1. Each committee shall choose its chair, as per the Bylaws. 2. The number and type of committees of the Senate shall be established in the Bylaws. 3. The duties and responsibilities of these committees shall be established in the Bylaws. ~~4. Membership in all committees may be open to students at large, subject to restrictions in the Bylaws.~~ ~~a. Such students may take part in all committee matters, with the expressed exception of voting.~~ 5. Committees, as per the Bylaws, may submit recommendations to	1. Each committee shall choose its chair by a procedure established in the Bylaws. 2. The number and type of committees of the Senate shall be established in the Bylaws. 3. The duties and responsibilities of these committees shall be established in the Bylaws. 4. Committee meetings shall be open to students at large, unless closed by a ⅔ vote of the committee. 5. Committees, as per the Bylaws, may submit recommendations to the full Senate. Such recommendations are not binding themselves, and must be approved or denied by the body. 6. The President of the Senate shall, at the second Senate meeting, following the Bylaws, sort Senators into committees subject to confirmation

the full Senate. Such recommendations are not binding themselves, and must be approved or denied by the body. 6. The ~~Vice-President~~ shall, at the first Senate meetings, following the Bylaws, sort Senators into committees subject to confirmation by the Senate.	by the Senate.
Rationale	
Establishes a procedure to close committee meetings. Moves the responsibility of committee assignments from the Exec VP to the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate, in many ways, acts as our Exec VP now.	

ARTICLE # 7 - ELECTIONS	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
~~*Section One: Structure and Membership*~~ ~~All election authority shall be invested in the Committee on Student Elections, hereafter referred to as the CSE.~~ ~~1. The CSE shall be composed of seven members who shall each have an equal vote and who shall choose their own chairperson.~~ ~~2. Current SGA members are ineligible to be members of the CSE.~~ ~~3. CSE members shall serve for one academic year.~~ ~~*Section Two: Basic Responsibilities*~~ ~~1. The CSE shall operate according to its own Constitution and Election Rules and shall be free from SGA interference during election periods.~~ ~~a. Such rules may limit free speech rights of candidates~~	

~~during election periods, but not in a manner that disrupts a campaign atmosphere.~~ ~~2. The SGA Judiciary shall handle appeals of CSE decisions.~~	
Rationale	
CSE section moved to Judiciary Branch.	

ARTICLE # 7 - CAUCUSES	
TAKES EFFECT: With elections of the 2023-2024 SGA administration	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
	1. Caucuses shall be established by the Senate for representation of a defined body of students with unique challenges and perspectives, and which are currently represented by a cohort of student organizations. The number and type of caucuses shall be outlined in the bylaws; as such, a caucus can be proposed through a bylaws amendment. 2. A bylaws amendment establishing a Caucus shall include procedures for internal elections of a Chair for situations in which the Chair position is not eligible for a school-wide election, and for when vacancies in the role arise. Chairs must be confirmed by a majority vote of the Senate. 3. Any bylaws amendment which seeks to establish a caucus shall be accompanied with a non-legislative addendum outlining the following: a. Purpose of the caucus b. Goals of the caucus

	c. The first Chair of the Caucus d. Why there is a need for this caucus on campus e. The signatures of at least 50 interested individuals 4. Caucus membership is open to all Homewood undergraduate students, including current SGA members. 5. The Caucus shall be chaired by the representative elected by a school-wide election as defined by Article IV Section 1, with one chair for each caucus. a. If the Caucus is not yet eligible for a school-wide election as defined by Article IV Section 1, the Caucus shall be chaired by the potential first Chair defined in the non-legislative addendum of the establishing legislation. 6. Caucuses are considered inactive if their membership drops below 20 Homewood undergraduate students for a period of two consecutive weeks after they have been notified by the Executive Secretary of their impending change in status. In such cases, the portion of the bylaws which established the caucus shall be considered null and void. The Caucus Chair shall remain an ex-officio member of the Senate, with no voting power, until such time as their Caucus is reestablished by the Senate.
Rationale	
Moves caucuses, a key representative body for the SGA, to the constitution (some language taken from bylaws). Establishes ways for caucuses to be better represented in GBMs. Ensures active caucuses. Makes the Chair of a given caucus elected from amongst the student body, as they now also have voting power at GBMs.	

ARTICLE # 8 - REFERENDA	
INFO	
Current	Proposed

~~*Section One: Purpose*~~ ~~A campus-wide referendum shall advise the Johns Hopkins administration on a specific issue or policy based on the will of the undergraduate community. A referendum shall be held if 2/3 (two-thirds) of the Senate votes to hold one.~~ ~~*Section Two: Petitioning a Referendum*~~ ~~1. A referendum may be approved after a petition is successfully completed, presented to the SGA, and approved by a 2/3 vote of representatives. A petition is deemed valid if it contains the signatures of at least 15% of the student body that knowingly consent to the sentiment of the proposed referendum.~~ ~~2. No student referendum nor SGA act may influence the conduct of a group or inhibit its right to expression, except if their conduct violates university regulations or local, state or federal laws.~~ ~~*Section Three: Administering Referenda*~~ ~~If a petition wins the right to a referendum, a referendum shall be administered over a well advertised window via online voting software with statements advocating each side of the issue at hand.~~ ~~1. Any referendum that receives a plurality of votes shall become binding to the SGA. a. A referendum is considered to have plurality when more respondents vote "yes" than "no" and the total number of students who voted yes amounts to at least 1/3 (one-third) of the undergraduate student body.~~ ~~b. Votes in abstentions shall not count towards plurality.~~	

~~*Section Four: Referenda for a Constitutional Amendment*~~ ~~This Constitution may be amended by a student referendum:~~ ~~1. Any member of the Senate may propose an amendment to the Constitution via student referendum. Said referendum must first be supported with a 3/4 vote of the Senate and shall become binding upon completion of the steps detailed under Article IX, Section Three.~~	
Rationale	
Striking this article enables us to move it to the bylaws, where it is more applicable. Referenda are no longer required for any procedure outlined in this constitution.	

ARTICLE # 9 - REMOVAL PROCEDURES AND VACANCIES	
Section # 1 - RECALL	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
1. The ~~Vice President~~ shall hold a recall election for any SGA member upon receipt of a petition that contains a 50-word justification for recall and the signatures of no less than 1/3 of students eligible to vote for the position in question. 2. The ~~Vice President~~ shall hold a recall election within two weeks of their receipt of the recall petition. 3. All students eligible to vote in an election for the position in question shall be eligible to vote in the recall election. 4. A 3/4 of vote may remove the representative from office.	1. The CSE shall hold a recall election for any SGA member upon receipt of a petition that contains an at least 50-word justification for recall and the signatures of no less than ⅓ of students eligible to vote for the position in question. 2. The recall election shall be held within two weeks of the CSE's receipt of the recall petition. 3. All students eligible to vote in an election for the position in question shall be eligible to vote in the recall election. 4. A majority vote in said election may remove the representative from office.

Rationale
Moves all elections under the jurisdiction of CSE. Ensures majority representation after a recall election.

ARTICLE # 9 - REMOVAL PROCEDURES AND VACANCIES	
Section # 2 - RESIGNATION	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
1. Any member of the SGA may resign by submitting a statement of resignation to the President.	1. Any member of the SGA may resign by submitting a statement of resignation to the Student Body President.
Rationale	
Updated language.	

ARTICLE # 9 - REMOVAL PROCEDURES AND VACANCIES	
Section # 3 - REMOVAL	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
1. Impeachments may be carried out for serious breaches of the Constitution and Bylaws, breaches of University, local, state, and federal laws or for a lack of good behavior. 2. Charges of impeachment against any member of the SGA shall be brought in the following ways: a. Any member of SGA may introduce impeachment charges, provided that they collect the signatures	1. Impeachments may be carried out for serious breaches of the Constitution and Bylaws, breaches of University, local, state, and federal laws or for a lack of good behavior. 2. Charges of impeachment against any member of the SGA shall be brought in the following ways: a. Any member of SGA may introduce impeachment charges, provided that they collect the signatures of at least

of at least one-third of the Senate membership and present them to the ~~Vice-President~~ at a meeting of the Senate. b. Upon receipt of said document, an impeachment hearing shall be scheduled at least one week after the receipt of charges, and no later than three weeks later.	one-third of the Senate membership and present them to the President of the Senate at a meeting of the Senate. b. Upon receipt of said document, an impeachment hearing shall be scheduled at least one week after the receipt of charges, and no later than three weeks later.
Rationale	
Exec VP language changed to President of the Senate	

ARTICLE # 9 - REMOVAL PROCEDURES AND VACANCIES	
Section # 4 - IMPEACHMENT PROCESS	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
1. Members with clear conflicts of interest are asked to recuse themselves from impeachment proceedings. 2. Impeachment hearings shall be closed, and the accused shall have time to provide their defense. At no point shall the accused take part in any deliberation whatsoever. 3. After the accused has left the room, the Senate shall deliberate and then vote to remove the member in question. 4. Secret ballots shall be used, with no identifying marks. 5. A 2/3 vote of the entire Senate is needed to remove the member. If in the affirmative, the member shall be thanked for their service and dismissed.	1. Members with clear conflicts of interest are asked to recuse themselves from impeachment proceedings. 2. Impeachment hearings shall be closed, and the accused shall have time to provide their defense. At no point shall the accused take part in any deliberation whatsoever. 3. After the accused has left the room, the Senate shall deliberate and then vote to remove the member in question. 4. Secret ballots shall be used, with no identifying marks. The election shall be administered by a JHU staff member. 5. A 2/3 vote of the entire Senate is needed to remove the member. If in the affirmative, the member shall be thanked for their service and dismissed.
Rationale	

Ensures a fair election by codifying oversight by a JHU staff member.

ARTICLE # 9 - REMOVAL PROCEDURES AND VACANCIES	
Section # 5-6 - SENATORIAL VACANCY	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
~~*Section Five: Senatorial Vacancy*~~ ~~1. The remaining members of the class shall solicit for applicants and choose a new Senator, per the Bylaws. The Senate must confirm this applicant.~~ ~~*Section Six: Class Presidential Vacancy*~~ ~~1. The remaining members of the class shall solicit for applicants and choose a new Senator, per the Bylaws. The Senate must confirm this applicant.~~	1. Vacancies in the Senate shall be filled by an application process, administered by the Vice President of the Senate, within one month of the position becoming available. Every student eligible to be a member of SGA shall be able to apply. a. The application submissions shall be visible to everyone in the Senate. Further, the Vice President of the Senate shall engage the position's co-representatives, if they exist, and at minimum a subset of the position's constituency in making the selection. 2. In the case of a vacancy of a Class President position, current class representatives shall be empowered to apply without risk of losing their current position by doing so. If a Class Senator is appointed to the role, the existing applications shall be used to select a new Class Senator to fulfill the now newly vacated role via the process outlined above. 3. In the case of a vacancy in the President of the Senate position, the Vice President of the Senate shall ascend to the role and an election for Vice President of the Senate held amongst the Senate members as previously outlined. The Senatorial vacancy shall be filled as outlined in Point 1.

Rationale
Makes Senate vacancies require engagement of the Senate and the position's constituency. Establishes unique procedures for vacancies of the Class President and President of the Senate roles. Enables class senators to apply to fill class president vacancies without being at risk of losing their seat on the Senate.

ARTICLE # 9 - REMOVAL PROCEDURES AND VACANCIES	
Section # 6 - EXECUTIVE BRANCH VACANCY	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
~~1. The Vice President shall succeed the Executive President.~~ 2. In the case of a vacancy in any other executive position, the ~~Executive~~ President shall propose three current ~~SGA members~~, and the Senate shall, by secret ballot, choose one to fill the vacancy.	1. The Student Body President shall be succeeded in the order in which the Executive positions are outlined in Article III Section One. 2. In the case of a vacancy in any other elected executive position that is not a Class Council position, the Student Body President shall propose three current members of the legislative branch, and the Senate shall, by secret ballot, choose one to fill the vacancy. The Senatorial vacancy shall then be filled by the process outlined in Article VIII Section Five. 3. In the case of vacancies on the Class Council Executive Team, the Chair of Programming, in conjunction with the remaining members of the Council's Executive Team, shall solicit applications from the affected class and present a nominee to the Senate for confirmation.
Rationale	
Establishes a clear line of Executive branch succession. Restricts the eligible members to fill most Executive vacancies to members of the Legislative branch only, ensuring that the role is fulfilled by an elected SGA member aware of the Senate's current priorities. Establishes a special procedure for filling class council vacancies.	

ARTICLE # 9 - REMOVAL PROCEDURES AND VACANCIES	
Section # 7 - JUDICIAL BRANCH VACANCY	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
	1. In the case of a vacancy in the Judiciary Board, the Senate shall solicit applications within three days and then follow the regular appointment process. 2. In the case of a vacancy in the CSE, the Judiciary Board shall solicit applications through the regular process outlined in Article V. Once received, the Senate shall then consider those applications at the first General Body Meeting following application receipt that occurs outside of an election period.
Rationale	
Establishes a process for filling Judiciary and CSE vacancies.	

ARTICLE # 9 - CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS	
INFO	
Current	Proposed
	1. This Constitution may be amended by a ¾ vote of the Senate. 2. Semantic Amendments a. Amendments related to incorrect grammar or specifying acronyms may be made by the Internal Affairs without a Senate vote. i. Internal Affairs Committee will notify the Senate of these

	changes.
Rationale	
Enables the ability for the Constitution to be a living document while also requiring a high level of Senate support to change this critical guiding document.	

The Bill hereby **PASSES** by varying votes.

Upon passage, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the seal of the Senate to be affixed to this bill indicating the Senate's assent and thus officially designated the bill's adoption as law.

Signatures of Enactment:

_____
Mehak Ali
Executive President of the Johns Hopkins SGA

_____
Breanna Soldatelli
President of the Senate
Executive Vice President of the Johns Hopkins SGA

_____
Elaina Regier
Executive Secretary of the Johns Hopkins SGA

_____
Karen He
Executive Treasurer of the Johns Hopkins SGA

Signatures of Ceremony:

_____

Nathan Mudrak
Introducer of the Bill

_____

Elaina Regier
Introducer of the Bill

_____

Harvey McGuinness
Co-Sponsor of the Bill

_____

Kobi Khong
Co-Sponsor of the Bill