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**Marquette University
Student Government**

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Memorandum

To: Dr. L. Christopher Miller, Ph.D.
Vice President for Student Affairs

From: Kyle Whelton
Legislative Vice President
Marquette University Student Government
(414) 288-5199
musg.senate@marquette.edu

Date: October 11, 2013

Re: Amendment to MUSG Senate Voting Procedures

On October 10, 2013, the Marquette University Student Government Senate passed an amendment to the MUSG Senate Standing Rules and the Constitution By-Laws that prohibits the use of secret ballot voting unless constitutionally mandated and requires that all votes be posted on the MUSG website. Please sign the legislation summary and send it back to me via campus mail and/or e-mail in pdf form.

Attached is a summary and copy of the legislation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

CC: Samuel Schultz, MUSG President
Dr. Jon Dooley, Ph.D., Senior Associate Dean of Student Development
Kate Trevey, Assistant Dean for Leadership and Vocation Programs

Senate

2013 - 2014

Summary of Legislation

Amendment #4

Authors: Senator Matt Walker, Senator Mary McCarthy

Sponsors: Senator Zack Wallace, Senator JR O'Rourke,
Senator Natasha Hansen, Senator Christian Evans,
Senator Nathan Craft, Senator Aliya Manjee,
Senator Peter Setter

Senate Committee: Business & Administration

Action of the MUSG Senate: Approved by Vote of 27-1-1

Senate Rationale: The MUSG Senate approved this legislation to amend the MUSG Senate Standing Rules and Constitution By-Laws in order to provide more transparency. It was the majority opinion that students have a right to know how their senators are voting on legislation.

Action of MUSG Legislative Vice President Kyle Whelton



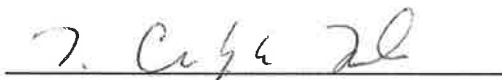
Date: 10/11/13

Action of MUSG President Samuel Schultz



Date: 10-11-13

Action of the Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. L. Christopher Miller, Ph.D.



Date: 10-11-13

Amendment #4:

Requiring the Recording of Each Senator's Vote

- Author(s): Senator Walker, Senator McCarthy
- Sponsor(s): Senator Wallace, Senator O'Rourke, Senator Hansen, Senator Evans, Senator Craft, Senator Manjee, Senator Setter
- Whereas: It is the role of Marquette University Student Government (MUSG) to actively identify and address students' needs, concerns and interests; and,
- Whereas: MUSG is the primary student voice at Marquette and supports students through issue advocacy, management of the Student Activity Fee, hosting and sponsoring activities and events for students and supporting student organizations; and,
- Whereas: The MUSG website states that "Senators work on behalf of students by writing legislation to be passed on to administrators, meeting with faculty and university officials to discuss concerns, planning forums and events focused on specific topics and gaining student feedback through surveys meeting with students"¹; and,
- Whereas: As MUSG Senators serve their constituents it is necessary to make the process more transparent in their voting record; and,
- Whereas: At Georgetown University, a fellow Jesuit institution, the Georgetown University Student Association records the voting records of their senators in the minutes, and publishes them on their website; and,
- Whereas: At University Wisconsin - Milwaukee, a local institution, the Student Association of Milwaukee records the voting records of their senators and posts them to their minutes, which can be found on their website; and,
- Therefore: Let the following be added to the Senate Standing Rules under Section III, subsection G:
- "The method of voting shall be left to the discretion of the chair, but the use of secret ballot votes shall be prohibited unless constitutionally mandated. Each senator's vote, either in the affirmative, negative, or an abstention, will be

¹ <http://musg.mu.edu/senate.shtml>

recorded by the legislative clerk and included in the meeting minutes and posted on the MUSG website."

; and,

Furthermore: Let the following be added to the Constitution By-Laws under Article VIII, Section 6, Subsection B, clause 5:

"Be responsible for recording the voting record of each senator for every vote cast and disseminate the information in the minutes of each Senate meeting and to the Communications Department, to be posted on the MUSG website."

Furthermore: Let the following be added to the Constitution By-Laws under Article VIII, Section 5, Subsection E:

"Be responsible for posting the voting record of each Senator on the MUSG website after each Senate meeting."