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**2018 LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
OF THE  
ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA – KEARNEY**

**SENATE BILL 2018-01**

10 TITLE: University of Nebraska – Kearney 2018 Election Guidelines Act  
11 COMMITTEE: Rules & Ethics  
12 SPONSOR(S) Senator Jase Hueser  
13 DATE: January 23, 2018  
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17 Candidates who are filing for the 2018 University of Nebraska – Kearney Student Government  
18 Election and who intend to run for the office of Senator, Vice President, or President must abide  
19 by the following election guidelines for the 2018 University of Nebraska – Kearney Student  
20 Government Election. Furthermore, be it known that any infringement upon the rules outline in  
21 this act or outlined in the Constitution and Bylaws of the Associated Students of the University  
22 of Nebraska – Kearney will result in having the candidate’s name removed from the election  
23 ballot.  
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25 **SECTION ONE: Application Procedures**  
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1. All candidates running for Student Body President/Student Regent and Student Body Vice President must fill out an application, which are located in the Nebraskan Student Union Office, Room 142. The last day to file the said application, with all required fields completed, will be no later than February 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Central Standard Time.
  2. All candidates running for the office of Senator in the Student Senate must complete an application and have all required fields filled in and submitted no later than February 16<sup>th</sup> at 5:00p.m. Central Standard Time. Please note that if you are running for the Student Senate, hereinafter referred to as the Senate, you will be running for the open seat that is associated with your college major.

- 37 3. Candidates are required to provide a detailed list of all campaign agents on the day  
38 applications are submitted. All President, Vice President, and Senate candidates will be  
39 held responsible for any of their agent's actions.  
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- 41 4. This list must be submitted to the Election Commissioner or the Student Government  
42 Advisor at the Nebraskan Student Union. The list may be updated but still needs the  
43 approval of either the Election Commissioner or the Student Government Advisor at the  
44 Nebraskan Student Union. Please be aware that all agent lists can be updated at any time  
45 during the campaign.  
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- 47 5. Candidates may be disqualified in the event that one of the campaign agents violates any  
48 existing election and campaign regulation.  
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- 50 6. Violations made by campaign agents will be subjected to disciplinary action as described  
51 in the University of Nebraska – Kearney 2018 Election Guidelines Act.  
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- 53 7. Members of the student press may not run for Student Government. Those wishing to  
54 run for student government or serve as an agent for a candidate must first relinquish their  
55 position as a student press member.  
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- 57 8. Candidates may run on both the Presidential and Senatorial tickets, however they can  
58 only run under the rules of the presidential position while keeping their name on both  
59 ballots.  
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- 61 9. All Student Body President/Regent and Student Body Vice President Applicant(s) must  
62 attend a mandatory Student Government Informational Session held by the Election  
63 Commissioner.  
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- 65 a. If a Student Body President/Regent or Student Body Vice President Applicant(s) is  
66 unable to attend the Informational Sessions he/she must make an appointment with  
67 the Election Commissioner to discuss the election process and rules prior to the  
68 application deadline.  
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- 70 b. Student Body President/Regent or Student Body Vice President Applicant(s) must  
71 also make an appointment with the current Student Body President/Regent prior to  
72 the application deadline.  
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- 74 10. All Senator Applicant(s) must attend a mandatory Student Government Informational  
75 Session held by the Election Commissioner.  
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- 77 a. If a Senator Applicant(s) is unable to attend the Informational Sessions he/she must  
78 make an appointment with the Election Commissioner to discuss the election process  
79 and rules prior to the application deadline.  
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## 79 **SECTION TWO: Creation and Dispersing of Campaign Materials on Campus**

- 81 1. Only candidates and registered agents will be allowed to independently create and  
82 distribute any campaign materials.

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2. All campaign materials must be approved and signed by either Election Commissioner or Student Government Advisor at the Nebraskan Student Union prior to the distributing of campaign materials. Any material found that is not approved by the people mentioned above will result in the taking down of material and a written warning by the Election Commissioner.
  3. Candidates wishing to post campaign materials in the residence halls must comply with procedure set by the Office of Residential Life (located in Conrad Hall) and Residence Hall Directors.
  4. All candidates wishing to advertise in the academic halls must take their signed and approved campaign material to the Dean's office of the respective colleges for signatures of approval. All candidates will be responsible of hanging their own material in the academic halls.
  5. No candidate, agent, or staff may feature campaign materials, campaign ideas or slogans in classrooms.
  6. Candidates and agents may post campaign material on university resident doors so long as permission is granted by the occupant(s).
  7. All candidates may place a nine (9) square foot banner in the Atrium of the Nebraskan Student Union only if it is approved and permission is granted by the Election Commissioner or Student Government Advisor at the Nebraskan Student Union.
  8. Candidates may utilize lawn advertisements but must receive written permission by all occupants living at that place of residence. The advertisement cannot exceed sixteen (16) square feet.
  9. Candidates may not put campaign ideas or slogans on university owned sidewalks or road surfaces.
  10. If a candidate or a candidate agent is caught taking down campaign material from another camp, the candidates name will be taken off of the ballot.

119 **SECTION THREE: Campaign Guidelines**

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1. Candidates, campaign agents, or others cannot for any reason place a vote for another student even if the student gives their consent. A violation of this rule will result in the loss of his or her vote.
  2. Election Day campaigning by candidates or agents must be contained to a fifty (50) feet radius of Cope Memorial Fountain with no campaigning to take place in residential, academic, or campus buildings, amphitheater, and the intramural soccer fields.

- 129 3. All candidates may start campaigning at noon (12:00 p.m.) on February 23, 2018. Before  
130 campaigning, candidates must have all necessary forms filled and turned into the Election  
131 Commissioner or the Student Government Advisor at the Nebraskan Student Union.  
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- 133 4. All campaign materials may remain up throughout the election but must be removed  
134 twenty-four (24) hours after the closing of polling booths on the final day of election  
135 except those materials within fifty (50) feet of a polling booth, which must be removed  
136 the night prior to election day by 11:59 p.m.  
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#### 138 **SECTION FOUR: Online Social Groups**

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- 140 1. The Election Commissioner must be notified of all social accounts and websites created  
141 specifically for the campaign.  
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- 143 2. All groups and events designed for the use of campaigning must invite the Election  
144 Commissioner to the group to ensure that all rules and guidelines are being followed.  
145 Upon accepting the invitation to the group and events, the Election Commissioner should  
146 be named as an administrator to the groups and events, if possible.  
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- 148 3. Any candidate or candidate agents found in violation of these guidelines will have their  
149 name taken off of the ballot.  
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#### 151 **SECTION FIVE: Organization Support**

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- 153 1. An organization may support a candidate only if everyone in that organization is in  
154 favor of supporting that candidate(s). The organization must show evidence in  
155 writing to the election commissioner before any action is taken to help a candidate's  
156 campaign. Organizations can support the candidate in only these ways.  
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- Take out an advertisement in *The Antelope*.
  - Lawn support in the form of a poster must not exceed sixteen (16) squared feet. The poster needs to be ten feet away from all university property and must be approved by the Election Commissioner of Student Government and Advisor at the Nebraskan Student Union. The poster also must be paid for with organization funds.
  - All candidate support must have in fine print at the bottom "Paid for by..." the name of the organization.
  - Any donation made by a student organization will count toward the total budget allowed to a candidate.
- 168 2. Community assemblies cannot make a formal announcement in the support of a  
169 candidate(s).  
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- 171 3. RHA and the NRHH may not make a formal announcement in the support of a  
172 candidate(s).  
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- 174 4. Resident Advisors cannot arrange and/or escort any group of students to polling  
175 booths and make a formal announcement in the support of a candidate(s).  
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177 5. Organizations that are considered student-ran must have a current and recently  
178 approved constitution. If there are any questions concerning this matter than you may  
179 consult the Election Commissioner or Student Government Advisor at the Nebraskan  
180 Student Union.  
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## 182 **SECTION SIX: Candidate Finance**

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- 184 1. Candidates for the Student Body President/Student Regent and Student Body Vice  
185 President may receive donations from any student organization or individual. No  
186 candidate for Student Body President/Student Regent and Student Body Vice  
187 President may spend more than \$450 in campaign expenditures including purchased  
188 and non-purchased materials. (Non-purchased items are those items that have been  
189 donated). An expenditure report must be turned in by 5:00 p.m. Central Standard  
190 Time to the Election Commissioner or Student Government Advisor at the Nebraskan  
191 Student Union the Friday after the election.  
192  
193 2. Candidates for the Student Senate may receive donations and cannot exceed the  
194 spending limit of \$100 including purchased and non- purchased items. An  
195 expenditure report must be turned in to the Election Commissioner or Student  
196 Government Advisor at the Student Union by 5:00 p.m. Central Standard Time the  
197 Friday following the election.  
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199 3. A fair market value for a donation or discount must be determined in advance by the  
200 Election Commissioner or Student Government Advisor. (For example – a student  
201 candidate that is an employee must declare full price value for an employee discount  
202 or privilege.)  
203  
204 4. Only UNK students and student groups (As define by the UNK Student Senate) can  
205 contribute to a candidate’s campaign funds. UNK students may contribute a total of  
206 \$15 per student. Donations from registered student organizations cannot exceed \$50.  
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208 5. Candidates shall not receive campaign donations, either monetary or material, totaling  
209 more than the spending limit for the position.  
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## 211 **SECTION SEVEN: Debate**

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- 213 1. The debate will be between candidates running for President and Vice President.  
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215 2. The debate will be held the night before the first day of elections.  
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217 3. The questions will not be released to the candidates until the debate.  
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- 219 4. All questions will go through a screening process conducted at 4:00 p.m. Central  
220 Standard Time the day before the debate by the Election Commissioner.  
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222 5. Any other organization wanting to host a debate must have a current and up to date  
223 constitution and must have the approval of both the Election Commissioner and the  
224 Student Government Advisor at the Nebraskan Student Union.  
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226 6. There can be up to two preliminary debates allowed during the campaign so  
227 organizations wanting to host a debate will be decided on a "first come, first serve"  
228 basis and if they meet approval.  
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230 **SECTION EIGHT: Election Day**  
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- 232 1. The General Elections will be held on March 7 and 8, 2018. Voting will be done  
233 electronically.  
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235 2. In order to win the office of Student Body President and Student Body Vice  
236 President in the general election, the candidate(s) on the same ticket must receive  
237 fifty (50) percent plus one (1) of the general election vote. If this number is not  
238 obtained, a runoff election will take place.  
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240 3. Unless disqualified for some reason, the two (2) candidates whose names are on  
241 the ticket receiving the most votes for Student Body President/Student Regent and  
242 Student Body Vice President after any recount will be certified as elected  
243 provided the vote tally meets the special certification of election as described in  
244 Section Eight, Point Two.  
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246 4. All election week rules and guidelines outlined earlier must be followed, with  
247 special attention paid to the Section Four entitled "online social groups."  
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249 5. Please report all discrepancies to the Election Commissioner.  
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251 6. The decision of having an election is up to the Election Commissioner. The  
252 location of the booth will be in the Nebraskan Student Union, and the hours of the  
253 booth will be up to the Election Commissioner.  
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255 7. Poll workers will supervise all voting sites at all times. These workers will consist  
256 of a bi-partisan person that is listed on the Election Commissioner agent list.  
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258 8. Campaign agents that are working with polling sites may not wear any campaign  
259 material at the polling sites. Furthermore, all campaign material needs to be  
260 removed from the agents before they enter the polling site.  
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262 9. The Election Commissioner and Student Government Advisors may choose at  
263 their discretion to hire and utilize non-partisan poll workers for any Election Day  
264 duties such as election booth poll workers, counting ballots, etc.

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**SECTION NINE: Recounts**

1. If a winner from either executive or senatorial campaigns has been determined by less than one (1) percent of the total votes cast for that position, the Election Commissioner shall conduct a recount of the votes.
2. During a recount a candidate must supply one agent and a Student Government Advisor must be present during the recount.

**SECTION TEN: Runoff Elections**

1. If an executive candidate does not receive the number of votes to secure a win, a runoff election will be conducted one week after the general election. The candidates in the election will be the top two presidential candidates that received the most votes during the general election.
2. The candidates that are participating in the runoff election will be allowed an extra \$100 in campaign expenditures. This money can either come from organization donations or individuals who donated to the campaign in the general election.
3. The winner of the runoff election must receive the fifty (50) percent plus one (1) percent of the votes and will be awarded the position of Student Body President/Student Regent and Student Body Vice President.
4. All expenditure reports from the runoff election must be turned in by the following Friday at 5:00 p.m. Central Standard Time.

**SECTION ELEVEN: Punishments and Violations**

1. Any and all violations to these guidelines, rules and regulations of the Election Commission, Bylaws, or Constitution of the Associated Student of the University of Nebraska – Kearney will result in the immediate disqualification and name of the candidate being taken off the ballot.
2. The Election Commissioner has the power to take anyone’s name off of the ballot, but only with the advice of the Student Government Advisor at the Nebraskan Student Union; as set upon in Section 12, Article 1 in the University of Nebraska – Kearney 2015 Election Guidelines Act.