



The University of West Florida  
Student Government Association

Poll Integrity Act

Legislation: 14-15 Bill VIII

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Legislative Intent: See attached, Section. 1

First Reading: <u>pass</u>	Second Reading: <u>pass</u>
Yes: <u>11</u>	Yes: <u>12</u>
No: <u>4</u>	No: <u>3</u>
Abstain: <u>1</u>	Abstain: <u>1</u>

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacob Hebert".

Jacob Hebert  
47<sup>th</sup> Senate President

Be it known that Student Government 14-15 Bill VIII is hereby signed on 1-23-2015

Pass

~~Veto~~

1/24/15  
Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ethan Friedland".

Ethan Friedland  
Student Body President

## Section1: Legislative Intent

In review of the recently compiled Supreme Court cases of the past, the writ of the court in the case R01-S2010, Mankiewicz v Jones dated 9 April 2010, certain regulations should be put forth in the Statutes to make clear the similarities and rules pertaining to electronic polls and physical polls. The opinion section of this Writ states:

“ Also, UWF Student Government Statutes, prohibit campaigning within a certain distance of the polls. In the [mass] email, Petitioner could be loosely considered to have been campaigning too close to the polls and violating the statutes. Candidates in future elections should pay very close attention to both of these things in an effort to ensure that such lines are not crossed.”

As it should not be the responsibility of the candidate to interpret the rules and precedents set forth in past elections, but rather the responsibility of the legislative body to fix their own rules, the following changes have been made.

In passing this bill, the Senate will ensure the integrity of the polling system and the right students have to vote at a poll unobstructed by any distractions a campaign or its members may cause.

## Section 2: Tracked Statutory Changes

### Chapter 410: General Election Procedure

#### 410.1 Polling Procedure

- A. All registered students are eligible to vote.
- B. The Election Commission shall supervise the placement of nonpartisan signs announcing the election.
- C. The main polling place shall be in front of the Nautilus market in the Commons Concourse, Building 22. There shall be no active campaigning within 50 feet of the polling station on election days. Poll workers have the right to remove anyone from the poll station.
- D. Candidates and campaign members may not physically present themselves at any informal polling stations created by non-SGA governed electronic devices in public areas, on or off campus. Candidates and campaign members' interaction with electronic polls should go no further than providing a link to the electronic poll through print, email, or social media, or provide directions to an official polling place.
- E. Bands and loud speakers for candidates or parties shall not be allowed within two hundred feet of the polls during polling hours.
- F. There shall be no proxy voting which is defined as voting on behalf of another student, even with their permission.
- G. Voters shall be entitled to vote in privacy, as long as they remain in sight of the poll workers. No candidate or campaign worker should provide a means of voting which could compromise the voter's right to vote in privacy.
- H. Students may vote from any computer that is capable of access to the MyUWF system at the University of West Florida. The main polling area in the Commons, Building 22 will serve the students that do not or cannot get access to any other computer but will be available from at least 10:00 am to 5:00pm each day of voting. Additional polling stations and extended hours shall be determined at the discretion of the Election Commission.
- I. Poll workers shall not be a candidate or involved with any campaign.
- J. Ballots shall be verified by the Dean of Students, the Assistant Dean of Students or an appointed designee.