**Sponsor(s): Senator Roy, Senator Bounds**

**Cosponsor(s):** Secretary Duffy, Senator Smith, Senator Myers, Senator Hofstetter, Senator Tasdan, VPOA Beddow

*Amendment to the Legislative Bylaws to Change the Voting Margin for a Secret Ballot*

WHEREAS, The Student Government Association is the official student governing body for Illinois State University;

WHEREAS, The Student Government Association’s Constitution guarantees the student body the right to accurate and honest representation through their respective constituencies;

WHEREAS, The ability to be a representative in the Student Government Association is a privilege given by a representative’s own constituency, and is built upon a foundation of trust and transparency;

WHEREAS, representation requires that constituents are knowledgeable on and have access to see the ways in which their representatives are voting on their behalf;

WHEREAS, a change from one-third of voting members to a majority of voting members for the passage of a secret ballot ensures that members are less likely to abuse this tool in ways that stifle their constituencies’ voice and limit their constituencies’ access to knowledge;

WHEREAS, as stated in the Bylaws, “the SGA Constitution (as it is a contract with the student body) and any action taken on behalf of the student body, a voting member is required to garner constituent feedback and to vote in accordance with that feedback”;

WHEREAS, this change further implements the spirit of the constitution by ensuring that students are more easily able to access their representative’s voting record (except in extreme circumstances), and further protects a constituency’s trust in their representative from being broken;

WHEREAS, by allowing debate on the motion for a secret ballot the association can verify the validity, and extenuating circumstances which led to a secret ballot being requested;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, this Bylaw amendment changes the voting margin for a secret ballot from one-third (1/3), to a majority (1/2 plus one);

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the specific changes to be made are listed as follows (elements bolded below are for clarity by emphasis and shall not be bolded in the actual document)

**Section V. Voting Procedures**

B.An electronic or secret ballot must be held if requested by **~~one-third (1/3~~**~~)~~ **a majority (1/2 plus one)** vote of present and voting members, **this motion is debatable.**

 **I. Appeals processes are automatically voted on through a secret ballot.**

Adopted by the Assembly of the Student Government Association on the **DATE** day of **MONTH**, **YEAR**.

We hereunto set our hands in affirmation of the adoption of this resolution by the Assembly of the Student Government Association:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student Body President President of the Assembly

I hereunto set my hand in witness and certification of the adoption of this resolution by the Assembly of the Student Government Association:

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

Secretary of the Assembly

Vote:  \_\_\_ Y \_\_\_ A \_\_\_ N