The Northeast State
of the Junior State of America
Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont

Official Northeast State Constitution
Including the Legislation of the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents and All Constitutional Amendments Passed Thereafter
Officers of the State

2017-2018
Derek Lo, Governor
Sarah Hoffman, Lieutenant Governor

2016-2017
Kamran Parsa, Governor
Aronno Shafi, Lieutenant Governor

2015-2016
Jenna Wong, Governor
Abigail Mumme-Monheit, Lieutenant Governor

2014-2015
Frank Kachmar, Governor
Marissa Birne, Lieutenant Governor

2013-2014
Benjamin Reytblat, Governor
Austin Ostro, Lieutenant Governor

2012-2013
Jacob Meisel, Governor
Daniel Weiner, Lieutenant Governor

2011-2012
Rachel Weber, Governor
Jacob Meisel, Lieutenant Governor

2010-2011
Lia Cromwell, Governor
Joseph Campagna, Lieutenant Governor

2009-2010
Daniel Hoffmann, Governor
Justin Fletcher, Lieutenant Governor
2008-2009
Alexander Speiser, Governor
Jessye Kass, Lieutenant Governor

2007-2008
Soojin Kim, Governor
Jason Katz, Lieutenant Governor

2006-2007
Jordan Levine, Governor
M-W Floyd, Lieutenant Governor

2005-2006
Nora Lawrence, Governor
Jordan Levine, Lieutenant Governor
Talya Housman, President Pro Tempore

2004-2005
Peter Betz, Governor
James Betz, Lieutenant Governor
Kavita Patel, President Pro Tempore

2003-2004
Matthew Woodward, Governor
Elizabeth Gates, Lieutenant Governor
Jenny Matydtik, President Pro Tempore
Northwest State Constitution

Preamble

We, as students determined to achieve a better understanding of the governmental process, to increase our awareness of contemporary issues, to promote students’ involvement in politics, to encourage good leadership qualities and responsibility in high school students, do hereby establish this Constitution for the Northeast State.

Article I: Names and Boundaries

Section 1. The name of the State shall be the Northeast State. It may be referred to as the NES.


Section 3. The Northeast State shall be divided into two regions.

a) The Empire Constitution Region will consist of New York and Connecticut. This region may be referred to as the ECR.

b) The New England Region will consist of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine. This region may be referred to as the NER.

Article II: Membership

Section 1. A member shall be defined as any high school student who belongs to an official JSA chapter within the Northeast State and has paid the annual membership “tax” as established by the Council of Governors.

Section 2. All members of the Junior State shall enjoy equal protection under the law and shall not be denied any rights or privileges entitled to them by law without proper action according to the law so established within this Constitution. The NES shall not discriminate on account of race, gender identity, creed, color, sex, nationality, handicap, or sexual orientation.
Article III: The Chapter

Section 1. A chapter shall be defined as a minimum of eight members who have the appropriate approval by their respective high school administration. This minimum number may only be changed by the Junior Statesmen Foundation.

Section 2. No chapter shall deny its members a republican form of government.

   a) Each chapter shall elect a Chapter President(s) who must serve as the leader of their respective chapter. The existence of two co-Chapter Presidents is permitted.

   b) The state shall not legislate other chapter positions. Chapters shall have the option of creating positions below Chapter Presidents as they see fit.

Section 3. A chapter shall be chartered upon the Governor’s receipt and approval of the chapter’s constitution.

Section 4. Each chapter shall have a regular school-approved advisor responsible for overseeing the activities and accompanying the chapter to conventions. Alternate school-approved advisors may accompany a chapter to conventions if the regular school-approved advisor is unable to.

Article IV: The State Executive Branch

Section 1. The elected officers of the executive branch of the Northeast Junior State shall be the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor as voted upon by the majority of the members of the NES. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor must be tax-paid members of the Northeast State.

Section 2. The term of office for the officers shall be the June 1st following their elections through the subsequent May 31st.

Section 3. The Governor shall be the chief executive power of the Northeast State.

   a) The Governor shall have the power to authorize chapters by approving their constitutions. If a constitution is not approved, the Governor shall return it to the chapter with recommendations for its re-submission.

   b) The Governor shall have the authority to create any departments essential for the functioning of the NES and give them the necessary power and authority. The Governor may appoint NES tax-paid members to cabinet positions to fulfill the
requirements of these departments, but must notify the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents of these appointments. The governor can create new interim departments, but must submit them to the JCOCP for review at the next overnight convention. The JCOCP must vote by simple majority to approve the establishment of new departments.

c) The Governor shall be responsible for all programs of the Northeast State.

d) Should any gubernatorial cabinet position become vacant, the Governor shall release an application and appoint a replacement to serve. The Governor shall make such an appointment public immediately.

e) The Governor shall have the ability to permanently remove any cabinet members from cabinet appointments.

f) The Governor shall report the state of the NES to the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents at every state convention.

g) The Governor shall have the authority to veto any bill passed by the legislature, which can be overridden by a ⅔ vote of the JCOCP for legislation and ¾ vote for a constitutional amendment.

h) Should the Governor fail to veto a bill within 10 days of its passage, the bill shall automatically become law.

i) Impeachment proceedings against a Governor must commence once a petition for such purposes with the signatures of 1/3 of the JCOCP has been received at least a week prior to the next overnight convention. A vote of 3/4 of the JCOCP is necessary to impeach a Governor. The Governor must be given at least five minutes to address the JCOCP concerning the impeachment. Upon impeachment, the Governor shall immediately be removed from office.

j) Upon the resignation or impeachment of the Northeast Governor, the Lt. Governor shall assume the gubernatorial position and the Lt. Governor’s Chief of Staff shall become Lt. Governor.

Section 4. The Lieutenant Governor shall be the second ranking official of the NES.

a) The Lieutenant Governor shall act as Governor should the Governor be absent or should he/she be incapable of exercising his/her duties for any reason.
b) The Lieutenant Governor shall preside over and call into session the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents. In their absence, the President Pro Tempore will perform this duty.

c) The Lieutenant Governor may be directed by the Governor to perform any duties necessary for the functioning of the Northeast State. The Lieutenant Governor shall oversee a cabinet, the departments of which will be jointly decided by each year's state Elected Officials.

d) Should any lieutenant gubernatorial cabinet position become vacant, the Lieutenant Governor shall release an application and appoint a replacement to serve. The Lieutenant Governor shall make such an appointment public immediately.

d) The Lieutenant Governor shall conduct all NES elections as prescribed by law unless he/she shall be a candidate or cannot otherwise conduct them, in which case the President Pro Tempore shall conduct them.

e) In order for the President Pro Tempore to assume control over NES elections, the Lt. Governor must notify the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents by Fall State. If neither the Lt. Governor nor the President Pro Tempore can conduct the elections, the Governor shall appoint someone with the majority vote of the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents.

i) Impeachment proceedings against a Lieutenant Governor must commence once a petition for such purposes with the signatures of 1/3 of the JCOCP has been received at least a week prior to the next overnight convention. A vote of 3/4 of the JCOCP is necessary to impeach a Lieutenant Governor. The Lieutenant Governor must be given at least five minutes to address the JCOCP concerning the impeachment. Upon impeachment, the Lieutenant Governor shall immediately be removed from office.

g) Upon the resignation or impeachment of the Northeast Lt. Governor, the Lt. Governor’s Chief of Staff shall become Lt. Governor.

Article V: The Regions
Section 1. The Empire Constitution Region will be run by a Mayor and Vice Mayor, whom a majority of the members of the ECR shall elect. The New England Region will be run by a Mayor and Vice Mayor, whom a majority of the members of the NER shall elect.

Section 2. The term of office for the aforementioned officers shall be the June 1st following their elections through the subsequent May 31st.

Section 3. The Mayor shall be the chief executive power of his/her region.

a) The Mayor shall have the power to create any departments deemed necessary for the functioning of the region with the approval of the Vice Mayor. He/she can appoint members to cabinet positions within these departments with the approval of the Vice Mayor. Cabinet appointments shall be made public by Fall Regional. Should any regional cabinet position become vacant, the Mayor shall make an application and appoint a replacement to serve. All midterm appointments must be made public immediately.

b) The Mayor shall be responsible for all programs of the region.

c) Impeachment proceedings against a Mayor must commence once a petition for such purposes with the signatures of 1/3 the Chapter Presidents in the region has been received by the Governor at least a week prior to the next overnight convention. A vote of 3/4 of the Chapter Presidents in a region is necessary to impeach a Mayor. The Mayor must be given at least five minutes to address the Chapter Presidents in his/her region concerning the impeachment. Upon impeachment, the Mayor shall immediately be removed from office.

d) Should a Mayor be impeached, the Vice Mayor will act as Mayor until being sworn in by the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents.

Section 4. The Vice Mayor shall be the second ranking official of the region.

a) The Vice Mayor shall act as Mayor should the Mayor be absent or incapable of exercising his/her duties for any reason.

b) The Vice Mayor may be directed by the Mayor to perform any duties necessary to the functioning of the region.

c) Impeachment proceedings against a Vice Mayor must commence once a petition for such purposes with the signatures of 1/3 the Chapter Presidents in the region has
been received by the Governor at least a week prior to the next overnight convention. A vote of 3/4 of the Chapter Presidents in a region is necessary to impeach a Vice Mayor. The Vice Mayor must be given at least five minutes to address the Chapter Presidents in his/her region concerning the impeachment. Upon impeachment, the Vice Mayor shall immediately be removed from office.

d) Should a Vice Mayor be impeached or promoted to Mayor following the Mayor’s impeachment, the Mayor will appoint a new Vice Mayor who will be sworn in at the next meeting of the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents.

Section 5. No person or chapter may belong to more than one region. The members of a region are to be the only voters in the regional elections.

Section 6. No region shall deny its members a republican form of government.

Article VI: The Legislative Branch

Section 1. The Northeast State legislature shall consist of a single body: the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents (JCOCP).

a) The Joint Council of Chapter Presidents shall consist of the democratically elected Chapter President(s) from each chapter in the State or his/her designee for the JCOCP. The Chapter President cannot be an elected official.

b) The Joint Council of Chapter Presidents shall have the power to pass legislation with a majority vote and a constitutional amendment by ⅔ vote.

c) Should the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents pass any legislation by a majority, it shall be given to the Governor for approval.

d) The Joint Council of Chapter Presidents may override a gubernatorial veto by a ⅗ vote for legislation and ¾ for a constitutional amendment.

e) Any NES member may to attend a meeting of the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents and propose an amendment, resolution, or piece of legislation. Chapter Presidents shall be the only members to hold a vote in the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents. This presiding officer will only hold a vote in the case of a tie.

Section 2. The legislature may meet at any time when called for by the Lieutenant Governor where there is a quorum.
a) In order for official business to be conducted, the meeting must be called by the Lieutenant Governor and presided by the Lieutenant Governor. In the case that the Lieutenant Governor cannot preside, the President Pro Tempore shall preside. The Lieutenant Governor must call a meeting at every state convention.

i. The President Pro Tempore must be a Chapter President, nominated by the Lieutenant Governor and approved by a majority vote of the JCOCP.

b) Quorum will be necessary to conduct official business. Quorum shall be defined as a ¾ majority of Chapter Presidents at the designated event.

Section 3. Each delegation shall only have one vote. The presiding officer shall have a vote only in the case of a tie.

Section 4. Every motion shall require a majority vote to pass unless otherwise noted, with the exception of constitutional amendments that require a 2/3-vote.

Section 5. The JCOCP may be permitted to vote through an online forum on issues that must be decided on before the next meeting of the JCOCP.

a) The members of the JCOCP must be given one week’s notice of the upcoming vote. This notice must include the legislation to be voted on and the ability to put in writing their support for or dissent against the legislation.

b) When the form for voting is sent to all chapter presidents it must include a video or document of support for the legislation. If one or more Chapter Presidents wish to speak or write against the legislation their dissent will be made available to all chapter presidents before voting may take place.

c) A form will be sent to all chapter presidents via email with a specified deadline by which votes must be submitted. Each chapter president will be allowed to vote, and based on the number of chapter presidents voting and the outcome of the vote the Lieutenant Governor will decide whether the legislation has passed or failed.

Article VII: The Judicial Branch

Section 1. In the instance of a judicial conflict, all members of the NES shall have the right to convene an honor court to address their complaint.
a) In order to call a court, the student must inform the Governor and Program Director at least ten days before a convention.

b) The honor court shall take place during a state convention.

Section 2. In the honor court, the Governor shall serve as the judge. Should the governor be party to the case, the Lieutenant Governor shall assume the duties of judge.

a) The judge shall have the responsibility of determining sentence, should the defendant be found guilty and to maintain a fair and efficient trial.

Section 3. The judge shall select a jury of seven (7) Northeast tax-paid students and teacher advisors.

Section 4. Both sides shall have twenty minutes to present their side of the case to the jury. During this time, the plaintiff and defendant can:

a) Call witnesses
b) Speak
c) Yield time to other speakers

Section 5. Following the arguments, the jury shall adjourn to a private room to discuss the case. A clear majority (4) shall be necessary to convict.

Section 6. Should the jury decide to convict, the judge shall have the responsibility to sit down with both parties and figure out appropriate reparations.

Article VIII: Supremacy Clause

Section 1. This constitution supersedes all other constitutions on the region or chapter level. Anything that contradicts this Constitution will be null and void.

Article IX: Amendments

Section 1. In order for this constitution to be amended, a meeting must be held during a Northeast State convention. At this meeting, open to all tax-paid members of the Northeast State, the Lieutenant Governor must read-aloud the proposed amendment to all present. At the same meeting, there shall be a vote taken about the proposed amendment. If the Joint
Council of Chapter Presidents votes in favor of the amendment with a 2/3 majority, the amendment shall be adopted.

Article X: Rules of Procedure

Section 1. Official rules and procedures for the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents shall be the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order.

Article XI: Ratification

Section 1. All chapters authorized prior to the adoption of this constitution shall remain authorized.

REVISED AND ENACTED BY THE JCOCP, Winter Congress 2016
Abigail Mumme-Monheit, Lieutenant Governor
Michael Noone, President Pro-Tempore
Jenna Wong, Sponsor & Constitutional Rewrite Commission Member
Code of Laws

Mumme-Monheit Election Reform Act of 2016
(A rewriting of A Bylaw to Establish More Comprehensive Campaign Activity Regulations in Northeast State Elections)
Whereas, it is necessary to update the electoral infrastructure of the Northeast State. Whereas, it is necessary to ensure future electoral integrity in the Northeast State.

BE IT ENACTED by the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents of the Northeast Junior State, assembled, that:
Section 1: Short Title. This bylaw may also be referred to as the “Mumme-Monheit Election Reform Act of 2016”.

Section 2: Definitions.

a) For the purposes of this bylaw, “member” and “tax-paid member” shall mean any high school student (student between the grades of 9 and 12 that is attending a secondary school or is a member of an approved Youth Council) that is currently a participant in the activities of the Junior State of America and that has paid the annual membership tax.

b) For the purposes of this bylaw, “FEC” shall mean the Fair Elections Committee of the Northeast Junior State.

c) For the purposes of this bylaw, “office” shall mean the elected positions in the Northeast State of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Mayor, and Vice-Mayor, where “Mayor” and “Vice-Mayor” refer to the Mayor and Vice-Mayor of the Empire Constitution Region and the Mayor and Vice-Mayor of the New England Region.

d) For the purposes of this bylaw, “State office” shall mean the elected positions of Northeast State Governor or Northeast State Lieutenant Governor.

e) For the purposes of this bylaw, “Regional office” shall mean the elected positions of Mayor and Vice-Mayor of either the Empire Constitution Region or the New England Region.
f) For the purposes of this bylaw, “run,” “run for office,” and “seek office” shall mean to be placed on the ballot for election to a State or Regional office, and/or to participate in campaigning activities as defined in Article III, Section 1 of this bylaw, on behalf of oneself.

g) For the purposes of this bylaw, “candidate” shall mean any person that has declared intent to seek office within the Northeast State.

h) For the purposes of this bylaw, “Campaign Manager” shall mean the principal agent of a campaign as chosen by the candidate with full authority to act on behalf of the campaign and supervisory responsibility for all other campaign officials.

i) For the purposes of this bylaw, “file” shall mean to physically give to a party requesting a particular document or to transmit electronically to the same.

j) For the purposes of this bylaw, unless otherwise specified, “in writing” shall mean either written in print or transmitted electronically in printed lettering.

Section 3: Replacement of Existing Statutes. Articles I-VII, inclusive, of A Bylaw to Establish More Comprehensive Campaign Activity Regulations in Northeast State Elections are hereby edited to the following:

**Article I: The Fair Elections Committee**

Article I: The Fair Elections Committee

Section 1: The Fair Elections Chairperson. As per Article IV, Section 4d of the Northeast State Constitution, the Lieutenant Governor shall preside over all Northeast State elections as the Fair Elections Chairperson.

a) If the Lieutenant Governor intends to run for an elected position that year, the President Pro Tempore (defined as a Chapter President, nominated by the Lieutenant Governor and approved by a majority vote of the JCOCP) shall preside over the elections in their place.

i. The Lieutenant Governor must decide by Fall State whether they will be running for an elected position that year. If they decide to run for an elected position, they must notify the President Pro Tempore of such intention before that time, so that the President Pro Tempore can decide on whether they can preside over elections in the Lieutenant Governor’s place. The Lieutenant Governor must also notify the Joint
Council of Chapter Presidents (JCOCP) at Fall State of their inability to preside over elections.

ii. If the Lieutenant Governor informs the President Pro-Tempore of their inability to preside over elections, the President Pro-Tempore must also decide by Fall State whether they will be running for an elected position. If they decide to run for an elected position, or otherwise refuses to accept responsibility as Fair Elections Chairperson (as defined in Section 3 of this Article), they must notify the Governor by Fall State, so that the Governor may appoint a replacement with the confirmation of the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents at Fall State, as per Article IV, Section 4e of the Northeast State Constitution. The President Pro Tempore must also notify the JCOCP at Fall State of their inability to preside over elections.

iii. The Lieutenant Governor and President Pro Tempore must decide if they are running for an elected position by Fall State. However, they both must abide by the rules of declaration and campaigning set forth in Article II of this bylaw, except when addressing the JCOCP about their inability to serve as Fair Elections Committee Chairperson.

iv. The Lieutenant Governor or President Pro-Tempore, whichever applicable, may recuse him or herself from presiding over elections at any time before or during Winter Congress if they believe existing political bias or any other factor would significantly hinder him or her from presiding over elections in an impartial manner.

Section 2: Future Bylaws. The advancement of the laws defining the election process shall solely be the responsibility of the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents. The Joint Council of Chapter Presidents will also be permitted to submit legislation to be entertained regarding the election process.

Section 3: The Fair Elections Committee. There shall be a Fair Elections Committee (FEC), chaired by the official designated to preside over elections (as per Section 1 of this Article) and consisting of four members appointed by the Fair Elections Committee Chairperson and approved by the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents at Winter Congress.

a) Members of the FEC may not support any candidate and must remain neutral and impartial during their time on the committee.

i) FEC members other than the FEC Chairperson who support undeclared candidates before their confirmation at Winter Congress (that are following the rules of declaration set forth in Article II) and before accepting appointment as FEC members by the Chairperson, are exempt from this rule, provided that they cease supporting all undeclared candidates at the time of their appointment by the FEC Chairperson.
ii) If a member of the FEC is found continuing to support an undeclared candidate after knowingly accepting appointment as an FEC member by the FEC Chairperson, that individual shall be considered ineligible to serve as an FEC member and the Chairperson must appoint a replacement before Winter Congress.

b) The Fair Elections Committee shall aid the FEC Chairperson in executing the Northeast State’s elections fairly and efficiently.

c) The members of the FEC are allowed to collect literature and campaign paraphernalia as defined in Article III of this bylaw, but they are not allowed to use this power to support any candidates. All materials they collect from candidates must not be visible in any way. Members of the FEC may not chose to collect literature and campaign paraphernalia from only one candidate in an election. they must accept campaign materials from all candidates or no candidates. Collection of campaign materials cannot be used to show favoritism or preference in an election.

d) There must be at least one member of the FEC from each region of the Northeast State.

e) The committee shall be dissolved on June 1st following Spring State.

f) There shall be no secret members of the FEC. However, any member of the Northeast State has the ability to decline involvement in all election proceedings.

Section 4: Removal or Resignation of FEC Members.

a) The FEC Chairperson or a Member of the FEC may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents, or by a two-thirds vote of all declared candidates present and voting.

b) The Governor may, at their discretion, approve impeachment proceedings for a member of the FEC at the request of one-half of all declared candidates, one-half of the JCOCP, or the Governor.

   i) Impeachment proceedings must take place in executive session at the next official function, provided that three-fourths of all declared candidates, and an FEC Member, are present, according to the latest edition of Robert’s Rules of Order. Proceedings may also take place through online voting as outlined in Act IV section 3 of the Constitution.

   ii) The candidate mounting the charges and the accused FEC Member are each entitled to 5 minutes to address the other candidates concerning the impeachment charges.

   iii) The candidates must then vote by secret ballot on the removal of the accused FEC Member.

c) In the case of the removal or resignation of a Member of the FEC, the FEC Chairperson shall nominate a replacement, who shall be confirmed by the JCOCP.
d) In the case of the removal or resignation of the FEC Chairperson, the Governor shall select a new FEC Chairperson from among the FEC Members, and the newly selected FEC Chairperson shall nominate, with approval of the JCOCP, a replacement FEC Member.

e) The Governor must notify the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents immediately of any changes to the membership of the Fair Elections Committee between Winter Congress and Spring State.

**Article II: Candidacy Eligibility and Declaration**

**Section 1: Member Eligibility.** Any tax-paid member who meets the qualifications of being a citizen of the Northeast State, set forth in the Northeast State Constitution, may run for a single elected position on the State or Regional level. They shall be considered a legitimate candidate when they officially announce their candidacy to a group of delegates, as per Section 3 of this Article.

a) No person who, at the time of elections as specified in Article VI of this bylaw, will graduate from secondary school within the same academic year, shall be eligible for candidacy; however, if said person transmits to the Fair Elections Committee Chairperson written declaration by Spring State from their school’s administration that said individual shall be retained for another year in secondary school, such disability shall be removed.

b) No person shall be eligible to run in any Regional election that is not a tax-paid member of a chapter affiliated with the same Region.

**Section 2: Eligibility Regarding Persons Banned or Dismissed from JSA Conventions.** No person who has been dismissed from a Junior State convention or the activities of a Junior State convention, or who has been banned from attending a convention, shall be eligible to run in any election unless they receive written consent from the Program Director by Winter Congress.

a) In order for such disability specified in this Section to be removed, the FEC Chairperson must transmit to said person written or electronic notification that the Program Director has approved the person’s eligibility for candidacy; however, delays in communication to the FEC Chairperson of the removal of such disability on the part of the Program Director shall not be held against the prospective candidate or be so construed as to deny or disparage the ability of said person to seek office within the Northeast State.

**Section 3: Candidacy Announcements.** A member may announce their candidacy at any time between a specified time period at Winter Congress and noon (12:00 PM) on the Saturday of Spring State.

a) Candidacy declarations at Winter Congress shall take place annually at a time chosen by the FEC Chairperson, with the guidance of the Governor.

b) No candidate may publically declare candidacy before the chosen time period.
c) In order for a candidate to make official their candidacy, they must completely fill out and submit the FEC Forms, which shall be updated annually by the FEC Chairperson. Any forms mandated by the FEC Chairperson to be filled out must be filed to the Chairperson before noon on the Saturday of Spring State.

d) It shall be the responsibility of the candidates to hand in all FEC forms on time. The FEC shall not be held responsible for failure on the part of a candidate to correctly file their forms by Spring State. In the event of an appeal by a candidate of a decision from the FEC addressing that candidate’s failure to file their forms on time, the FEC shall not be held liable for not reminding that candidate of any form submission deadlines already set forth in this bylaw, or of any other deadlines required by the FEC Chairperson and made known to all candidates at least once in writing.

Section 4: Failure to Submit FEC Forms. If a candidate has not filed their FEC forms to the FEC Chairperson, has not filed their forms correctly, or has not filed all available receipts for purchased items in addition to their spending report, as specified in Article III of this bylaw, by noon on the Saturday of Spring State, the candidate is not official and may not run.

Article III: Campaigning

Section 1: Definition of Campaigning Activities. The following activities are defined as campaigning activities subject to the regulation of the Fair Elections Committee with respect to content, venue, and time:

a) Making a public declaration of candidacy in any form, including but not limited to, verbally, electronically, or in writing;
b) Making a public declaration of platform in any form, including but not limited to, verbally, electronically, or in writing;
c) Preparing, ordering, purchasing, or designing campaign materials;
d) Preparing, ordering, purchasing, designing, or coding internet presence;
e) Distributing or otherwise disseminating campaign materials;
f) Publicizing or otherwise disseminating internet presence;
g) Publicly communicating in any form, including but not limited to, verbally, electronically, or in writing, intent to seek office, when such communication is directed toward a group of members numbering two or more with whom the candidate does not have a pre-established personal relationship, except that this Subsection shall not apply to communications to the candidate’s chapter or to members of the candidate’s official campaign staff;
h) Displaying campaign materials on the person of a candidate, campaign official, or supporter;
i) Any other activities reasonably calculated to advance a candidate’s prospect for successful election to a State office or Regional office.
Section 2: Campaign Committees. The campaign activities of each candidate, as defined in Section 1 of this Article, shall occur under the authority of a singular campaign committee designated by each individual candidate. Campaign committees shall be named viz. “The Committee to Elect ________.” Each candidate may have only one campaign committee.

a) No person, unless representing a candidate with their prior approval by written affidavit, may attempt to charter or otherwise form any committee intended for the purposes of carrying out activities defined in Section 1 of this Article for or on behalf of any candidate.

b) Any person who violates this Section shall forfeit their right to vote for all elections occurring within the same calendar year as the infraction occurred.

c) Campaign committees shall be dissolved upon the conclusion of elections at Spring State or upon the elimination of a candidate from their race.

Section 3: Campaign Officials.

a) A campaign official shall be defined as:
   i) Any person with the authority to act on behalf of a campaign as an agent;
   ii) Any person given instructions to complete tasks beneficial to the outcome of a campaign by a candidate.

b) Each candidate shall, if applicable, declare their Campaign Manager to the FEC by written affidavit of the designated Campaign Manager, and, upon such request of the FEC Chairperson, shall declare any other campaign officials.

Section 4: Liability for Campaign Officials. Each candidate is liable in full for the actions of their campaign officials, regardless of whether the candidate had personal knowledge of the conduct of the campaign officials.

a) Candidates shall be subject to punishments defined in Article V of this bylaw for violations made by campaign officials, which may be issued at the discretion of the FEC Chairperson or their designee unless otherwise specified in Article V, but no punishment issued by the FEC for a violation made by a campaign official shall exceed in severity the punishment that would be applied to the candidate in question had said candidate committed the same infraction.

Section 5: Proxies. If any candidate is not present at Spring State or any other official function, that candidate may designate a single proxy to campaign on the candidate’s behalf.
Official Northeast Junior State Constitution & Code of Laws

a) For the purposes of this bylaw, “official function” shall be defined as a Northeast State convention, any Regional convention affiliated with the Northeast State, or any chapter conference occurring under the authority of a chapter affiliated with the Northeast State.

b) The proxy shall fill the role of the candidate, and shall be allowed to make speeches and participate in candidates’ forums in the candidate’s stead.

c) The proxy shall be obliged to follow the election law and the policies of the FEC as if they were the candidate, and the candidate shall be subject to punishments should the proxy violate any provisions contained within the election law or policies of the FEC.

d) The proxy need not be the same person from event to event; however, no candidate may have more than one official proxy at any single event.

Section 6: Campaign Speeches. Candidates may make official campaign speeches during the designated candidate forum(s) of any official function where a member of the FEC or the Chairperson’s designee is present to preside over the forum.

a) If the FEC Chairperson cannot attend any event at which an official candidate forum is to be held, the Chairperson must inform all FEC members of such inability before the commencement of the event in question.

b) If no member of the FEC can be present at an event, the Chairperson must appoint someone to preside over the forum. This appointee cannot be a candidate or a member of a candidate’s campaign staff, nor hold any elected or appointed position within the chapter of any candidate.

c) Candidates running for the same position shall be allotted equal amounts of time per speech.

d) Each candidate shall be allotted one minute during which to announce candidacy at Winter Congress or at any other time between Winter Congress and noon on the Saturday of Spring State, notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection (c) of this Section.

e) At Spring State, candidates shall be allotted the following time for speeches:

i) All candidates running for State office shall be allotted a period of five minutes for candidacy speeches and endorsements. During those five minutes, each candidate may have a maximum of two endorsement speeches made by tax-paid members of the Northeast State. The total sum of the time for the two endorsements and the candidate’s speech must not exceed five minutes.

ii) All candidates running for Regional office shall be allotted a period of three minutes for candidacy speeches and an endorsement. During those three minutes, each candidate may have a maximum of one endorsement speech made by a tax-paid member of the Northeast State. The total sum of the time for the endorsement and the candidate’s speech must not exceed three minutes.

iii) Candidates shall not be required to have endorsement speeches.
iv) State and Regional candidates shall receive a block of time allotted for a question and answer session. The time shall be divided equally between the Vice Mayor and Mayor candidates for each region and also for the Lieutenant Governor and Governor candidates, but the time shall not necessarily be divided equally for Regional and State elections.

f) The lengths of speeches and duration of nomination block described in Subsection 5(e) of this Article may be changed by the FEC Chairperson depending upon the number of candidates for each position; however, any changes made to the lengths of speeches and duration of the nomination block by the FEC Chairperson shall be made with the guidance of the Governor and of any members of the Governor’s Cabinet appointed to oversee conventions of the Northeast State.

Section 7: Campaigning Before Declarations. Candidates may approach individual JSA members during the time before declarations at Winter Congress to ask for their support; however, no candidate may participate in any activity defined as campaigning in Section 1 of this Article, to more than two members at any given time before declarations that are not members of that candidate’s official campaign team.

a) For enforcement purposes before Winter Congress, “official campaign team member” shall be defined as any individual that has knowingly and willfully agreed, upon explicit request of the prospective candidate made in writing or electronically, to be declared a campaign official as defined in Section 3 of this Article upon the official declaration of candidacy of the prospective candidate at Winter Congress. Campaign team members should email the Lieutenant Governor their commitment to a certain campaign team.

b) Candidates shall be allowed to discuss freely their candidacies with more than two members of their chapter, notwithstanding the provisions of this Section.

Section 8: Spending Limits and Materials. The spending limits of candidates shall be as follows:

a) The Governor and Lieutenant Governor candidates shall have a spending limit of four hundred dollars in personal expenditures and three hundred dollars, assessed in Fair Market Value. The Mayor and Vice-Mayor shall have a spending limit of two hundred and fifty dollars in personal expenditures and one hundred and fifty dollars, assessed in Fair Market Value. This shall include the price of all costs associated with the campaign including, but not limited to, paper, stickers, buttons, t-shirts, pens, and other paraphernalia. Costs not counted include, but are not limited to, phone bills and transportation costs.

i) For the purposes of this bylaw, “personal expenditures” shall be defined as contributions to an official campaign committee of campaign paraphernalia or
money by the candidate him- or herself or by the parent or legal guardian of the candidate who serves as a financial custodian for the candidate.

ii) The spending limits for Regional and State candidates may be changed at the discretion of the FEC Chairperson if they decide on such a change and reports it publicly to the JCOCP by Winter Congress. If the spending limits for Regional and State elections are changed by the FEC Chairperson, they shall revert back to three hundred fifty dollars and one hundred seventy-five dollars in Fair Market Value and personal expenditures, for Regional and State candidates respectively, on June 1st of the same calendar year.

b) The FEC Chairperson shall be responsible for designating Fair Market Values for common items distributed by candidates for the advancement of their campaigns, and shall be responsible for updating Fair Market Values from the past year as needed; however, any Fair Market Value not updated by the FEC Chairperson by Winter Congress may not be changed during the campaign season except by a majority vote of all declared candidates and a majority vote of the members of the FEC. Costs related to a campaign that are not specified in the official list of Fair Market Values shall be determined by the FEC Chairperson on a per-person basis as needed and made known to all candidates at least once in writing. There shall be no secret Fair Market Values.

c) Candidates must file to the FEC Chairperson by noon on the Saturday of Spring State a detailed report of the money spent on their campaigns, and copies of all available receipts from items purchased for their campaigns.

i) The FEC shall not be held responsible for asking or reminding candidates to file to the FEC Chairperson all available receipts and any requested expenditure reports.

ii) All campaign materials shall be assessed in Fair Market Value, including items for which the candidate cannot provide a receipt, items purchased below the Fair Market Value, and items for which the candidate receives a discount or receives free of charge.

d) Candidates may distribute appropriate items such as literature, stickers, buttons, and other objects after they declare their candidacies until the end of elections. They may also hang posters in any room(s) designated by the FEC Chairperson at Spring State only.

i) The candidates must follow the stipulations set forth by the hotel at which Spring State is held about hanging up posters, including, but not limited to, the specific type of adhesive tape recommended or required to hang up the posters.

ii) At Spring State, candidates shall not be allowed to hang up posters before the beginning of registration on Saturday morning.

iii) Candidates are responsible for all forms of literature and other objects that they hand out. They must clean up any literature or objects that have been left behind.
Section 9: Approval of Materials. All materials must be approved by the FEC Chairperson before distribution or public display, including, but not limited to, campaign literature, designs for other handouts, and Internet presence.

a) If the FEC Chairperson is not available, members of the Fair Elections Committee may approve materials with the Chairperson’s prior consent.

b) Candidates must give to the FEC Chairperson or their designee at least 48 hours’ notice before any official function the intent to receive approval for materials not previously approved by the FEC.

Section 10: Cessation of Campaigning Activities. Campaigning must end upon the conclusion of elections at Spring State or the removal of a candidate from their race.

a) The above Section shall in no way be so construed as to deny candidates eliminated from races from endorsing other candidates still participating in elections, during their official concession speeches as per Article VI, Subsection 6(f) of this bylaw.

Article IV: Ethics

Section 1: General Display of Respect. All candidates must respect other delegates, candidates for all other offices, Teacher/Advisors, and hotel guests.

Section 2: Slander and Libel. No candidate or campaign official shall make any written or spoken statement, for the purpose of advancing a candidate’s prospect for successful election, that is materially false or fictitious regarding the qualifications or history of any other person.

Section 3: Expenditures to Influence Voting. No person shall make or offer to make an expenditure to any person, either to vote or withhold their vote, or to vote for or against any candidate, nor receive any such expenditure in consideration of their vote or the withholding of the same.

a) This Section shall not be so construed as to deny candidates or campaign officials the ability to distribute materials outlined in Article III, Subsection 1(e) of this bylaw that are paid for in Fair Market Value and approved by the FEC Chairperson.

Section 4: Bribery. No person shall directly or indirectly, corruptly give, offer or promise anything of value to any public official, with intent to influence any official act related to elections or to induce such public official to do or omit to do any act relating to elections, in violation of the duty of such official.
Section 5: Misuse of State Resources. No person shall use any resources of the Junior State, or of any State or Region within the jurisdiction of the Junior State, including, but not limited to, mailing lists, addresses, online resources, and forums, that are not publicly available for use, with the intention of unfairly advancing a candidate’s prospect for election to a State or Regional office.

Section 6: Promise or Deprivation of Appointment for Political Support. No person shall directly or indirectly promise or pledge the appointment or the use of their influence for the appointment of any person to any position within the Northeast State, nor cause or attempt to cause any person to support a campaign by means of the denial or deprivation, or the threat of the denial or deprivation, of appointment to any position within the Northeast State, for the purpose of procuring support for a candidate.

Section 7: Voter Intimidation. No person shall intimidate, threaten, coerce, or attempt to intimidate, threaten, or coerce, any other person or persons for the purpose of interfering with the right of such other person or persons to vote or to vote as they may choose, or of causing such other person or persons to vote for, or not to vote for, any candidate for State or Regional office.

Section 8: Campaigning on Behalf of Other Candidates. No candidate shall participate in any campaign activities specified in Article III, Section 1 of this bylaw for or on behalf of any other candidate for any other office within the jurisdiction of the Northeast State, and no candidate or Campaign Manager shall promulgate any statement that would serve to influence voters into believing that any candidate is running on a joint “ticket” with any other candidate.

Section 9: Obstruction of Justice. No person shall, with intent to avoid, evade, prevent, or obstruct compliance, in whole or in part, with any investigation duly and properly made by the Fair Elections Committee, willfully withhold, misrepresent, remove from any place, conceal, cover up, destroy, mutilate, alter, or by other means falsify any documentary material, answers to written interrogatories, or oral testimony.

Section 10: Fraudulent Misrepresentation of Campaign Authority. No person shall fraudulently misrepresent him- or herself as speaking or writing or otherwise acting for or on behalf of any other candidate or agent thereof or willfully and knowingly participate in any plan, scheme, or design to do the same.

Section 11: Voter Fraud. No person shall alter, manipulate, conceal, cover up, destroy, falsify, misrepresent, or willfully withhold ballots distributed by the Fair Elections Committee for the purpose of recording votes at Spring State.

Section 12: Regulatory Authority of the FEC Chairperson. The final determination of ethics shall fall to the FEC Chairperson. The Chairperson may determine the actions that constitute ethical
violations regardless of their enumeration in this Article, and may issue any punishments deemed necessary for ethical violations not enumerated in this Article, provided that no such punishment in any way affects a candidate’s ability to appeal a decision of the FEC Chairperson, as specified in Article VII, Sections 2 and 4 of this bylaw.

**Article V: Penalties for Infractions**

**Section 1: Declarations of Candidacy.** Any candidate who issues a declaration of candidacy (as defined in Section 3 of Article II of this bylaw), to more than two members at any given time that are not members of that candidate’s chapter or official campaign team, before Winter Congress, shall receive a deduction in campaign spending limit valued in the aggregate at one-fourth the original limit for the race.

a) Any candidate who distributes campaign materials or publicly participates in activities defined as campaigning in Section 1 of Article III of this bylaw before Winter Congress shall receive a deduction in campaign spending limit valued in the aggregate at one-half the original limit for the race.

b) Any candidate who both issues a declaration of candidacy and violates Subsection (a) of this Section shall be disqualified from standing in all elections.

c) Any candidate who violates this Section (or Subsection (a) of this Section) beyond an acceptable degree at first infraction may be disqualified from standing in all elections at the discretion of the FEC Chairperson, and upon a majority vote of the members of the FEC.

**Section 2: Failure to Properly Declare Campaign Officials.** Any candidate who fails to declare by written affidavit their Campaign Manager, if applicable, by noon on the Saturday of Spring State, who fails to declare, by any means deemed valid by the FEC Chairperson, other campaign officials specified by the FEC Chairperson if such request has been duly made by the FEC Chairperson at least once in writing; or who fails to declare, by any means deemed valid by the FEC Chairperson, other campaign officials to the FEC by any deadlines specified in such request, shall receive a deduction in campaign spending limit valued in the aggregate at one-fifth the original limit for the race.

**Section 3: Campaigning at Inappropriate Times.** No candidate shall distribute campaign materials or otherwise participate in activities defined in Subsections (b), (e), and (g) of Section 1 of Article III of this bylaw at times other than during meals, between debate blocks, during free time at nights, or during any other times designated appropriate for campaigning by the FEC Chairperson.
a) Any candidate who violates this Section, or who knowingly and willfully allows this Section to be violated, shall receive a deduction in campaign spending limit valued in the aggregate at a minimum of fifteen per cent of the original limit for the race, not to exceed fifty per cent, at the discretion of the FEC Chairperson.

Section 4: Distribution of Inappropriate Items.

a) Any person who distributes or publicly displays any items not approved by the FEC Chairperson for distribution at official functions, or who distributes items in violation of a disapproval made by the FEC for the distribution of such items, for the purposes of conducting campaign activities as defined in Subsections (b), (c), or (h) of Article III, Section 1 of this bylaw, shall surrender to the FEC all offending items and shall forfeit his right to vote, in all elections occurring within the same calendar year as the infraction occurred at first infraction, and permanently at second infraction.

b) Any candidate who violates this Section, or who knowingly and willfully allows this Section to be violated, shall surrender to the FEC all offending items and shall receive a deduction in campaign spending limit valued in the aggregate at a minimum of fifteen per cent of the original limit for the race, not to exceed seventy-five per cent, at the discretion of the FEC Chairperson, at first infraction, and shall be disqualified from standing in all elections at second infraction.

Section 5: Slander and Libel. Any candidate or campaign official who makes any written or spoken statement, for the purpose of advancing a candidate’s prospect for successful election, that is materially false or fictitious regarding the qualifications or history of any other person, shall receive a deduction in campaign spending limit valued in the aggregate at a minimum of five per cent of the original limit for the race, not to exceed fifty per cent, at the discretion of the FEC Chairperson.

a) Any candidate who violates this Section, or who knowingly and willfully allows this Section to be violated, beyond an acceptable degree at first infraction, may be disqualified in standing from all elections at the discretion of the FEC Chairperson, and upon a majority vote of the members of the FEC.

b) Any candidate who refuses or fails to comply with a request duly made by the FEC Chairperson, or their designee, to remove Internet presence that violates this Section, within forty-eight hours of said request, shall be disqualified from standing in all elections, unless the candidate is unable to remove the content within the time specified due to religious restriction or other reasonable inability to access electronic resources that would facilitate the removal of the content in question.
Section 6: Expenditures to Influence Voting.

a) Any person who makes or offers to make an expenditure to any person, either to vote or withhold their vote, or to vote for or against any candidate, or who receives any such expenditure in consideration of their vote or the withholding of their vote, shall be barred from attending voting activities at Spring State and shall forfeit their right to vote permanently.

b) Any candidate who violates this Section, or who knowingly and willfully allows this Section to be violated, shall be disqualified in standing from all elections, and shall be ineligible to seek office within the Northeast State for a period of twenty-four months.

Section 7: Bribery.

a) Any person that directly or indirectly, corruptly gives, offers, or promises anything of value to any public official, with intent to influence any official act related to elections or to induce such public official to do or omit to do any act relating to elections, in violation of the duty of such official or person, shall forfeit their right to vote permanently.

b) Any candidate who violates this Section, or who knowingly and willfully allows this Section to be violated, shall be disqualified from standing in all elections, and shall be ineligible to seek office within the Northeast State for a period of twenty-four months.

Section 8: Misuse of State Resources.

a) Any person who uses any resources of the Junior State, or of any State or Region within the jurisdiction of the Junior State, including, but not limited to, mailing lists, addresses, online resources and forums, that are not publicly available for use with the intention of advancing a candidate’s prospect for election to a State or Regional office, shall forfeit their right to vote in all elections occurring within the same calendar year as the infraction occurred.

b) Any candidate who violates this Section, or who knowingly and willfully allows this Section to be violated, shall receive a deduction in campaign spending limit valued in the aggregate at one-half the original limit for the race.

Section 9: Promise or Deprivation of Appointment for Political Support.

a) Any person who directly or indirectly promises or pledges the appointment or the use of their influence for the appointment of any person to any position within the Northeast Junior State, or who causes or attempts to cause any person to support a campaign by means of the denial or deprivation, or the threat of the denial or deprivation, of appointment to any
position within the Northeast Junior State, for the purpose of procuring support for a
candidate, shall forfeit their right to vote permanently, and shall be permanently barred from
attending election activities at all subsequent Spring State conventions.
b) Any candidate who violates this Section, or who knowingly and willfully allows this Section
to be violated, shall be disqualified from standing in all elections, and shall be permanently
ineligible to seek office within the Northeast State.

Section 10: Voter Intimidation.

a) Any person who intimidates, threatens, coerces, or attempts to intimidate, threaten, or
coerce, any other person or persons for the purpose of interfering with the right of such
other person or persons to vote or to vote as they may choose, or of causing such other
person or persons to vote for, or not to vote for, any candidate for State or Regional office,
shall forfeit their right to vote in all elections occurring within the same calendar year as the
infraction occurred.
b) Any candidate who violates this Section, or who knowingly and willfully allows this Section
to be violated, shall be disqualified from standing in all elections.

Section 11: Campaigning on Behalf of Other Candidates.

a) Any Campaign Manager who promulgates any statement that would serve to influence
voters into believing that any candidate is running on a joint “ticket” with any other
candidate, shall forfeit their right to vote in all elections occurring within the same calendar
year as the infraction occurred, at first infraction, and permanently at second infraction.
b) Any candidate who participates in campaign activities specified in Article III, Section 1 of
this bylaw on behalf of any other candidate for any other office within jurisdiction of the
Northeast State, or who promulgates any statement that would serve to influence voters into
believing that any candidate is running on a joint “ticket” with any other candidate, shall
receive a deduction in campaign spending limit valued in the aggregate at one-third the
original limit for the race at first infraction, and shall be disqualified in standing from all
elections at second infraction.

Section 12: Obstruction of Justice.

a) Any person who, with intent to avoid, evade, prevent, or obstruct compliance, in whole or in
part, with any investigation duly and properly made by the Fair Elections Committee,
willfully withholds, misrepresents, removes from any place, conceals, covers up, destroys,
mutilates, alters, or by other means falsifies any documentary material, answers to written
Official Northeast Junior State Constitution & Code of Laws

interrogatories, or oral testimony, shall be barred from attending voting activities at Spring State and shall forfeit their right to vote permanently.

b) Any candidate who violates this Section, or who knowingly and willfully allows this Section to be violated, shall be disqualified from standing in all elections, and shall be permanently ineligible to seek office within the Northeast State.

Section 13: Fraudulent Misrepresentation of Campaign Authority.

a) Any person who fraudulently misrepresents him- or herself as speaking or writing or otherwise acting for or on behalf of any other candidate or agent thereof or who knowingly and willfully participates in any plan, scheme, or design to do the same, shall be barred from attending voting activities at Spring State and shall forfeit their right to vote permanently.

b) Any candidate who violates this Section, or who knowingly and willfully allows this Section to be violated, shall be disqualified from standing in all elections, and shall be permanently ineligible to seek office within the Northeast State.

Section 14: Voter Fraud.

a) Any person who alters, manipulates, conceals, covers up, destroys, falsifies, misrepresents, or willfully withholds ballots distributed by the Fair Elections Committee for the purpose of recording votes at Spring State shall forfeit their right to vote permanently and shall be permanently barred from attending election activities at all subsequent Spring State conventions.

b) Any candidate who violates this Section, or who knowingly and willfully allows this Section to be violated, shall be disqualified from standing in all elections, and shall be permanently ineligible to seek office within the Northeast State.

c) Any person who violates this Section and who is a Chapter President of a chapter affiliated with the Northeast State, or who is subsequently elected Chapter President of a chapter affiliated with the Northeast State after previously violating this Section, or who has prior approval from their Teacher/Advisor to act as Chapter President at Spring State and who violates this Section or has violated this Section, shall be allowed to attend voting activities at Spring State for the exclusive purpose of organizing their chapter; however, they shall be barred from announcing their chapter’s vote counts at Spring State and from handling ballots distributed by the Fair Elections Committee.

d) The FEC Chairperson shall reserve the following authorities to enforce the provisions of this Section, if there is reasonable evidence or suspicion to believe that any person is participating in any plan, scheme, or design, to violate the provisions of this Section:
i) To, upon approval of the Program Director, revoke the ability of any Chapter President or Acting Chapter President to announce the votes of their chapter, and to designate a member or agent of the FEC (as defined in Article VI of this bylaw) to announce the votes of a chapter in the Chapter President’s stead;

ii) To mandate that a member of the FEC oversee the recording of votes of any chapter and/or directly collect the ballots of the members of a chapter;

iii) To, upon approval of the Program Director, mandate that a chapter vote by secret ballot for the election of a particular office or offices, or for all elections;

iv) To mandate that the votes recorded for a chapter and counted by the Chapter President or Acting Chapter President and confirmed by the FEC agent (as specified in Article VI of this bylaw) assigned to a chapter also be confirmed by a member of the FEC or by the Chairperson him- or herself.

Section 15: Violation of JSA Code-of-Conduct Statutes.

a) Any person who has transmitted their intention of candidacy to the FEC Chairperson by Winter Congress, and who violates a rule set forth in the Junior State code-of-conduct at Winter Congress, shall be ineligible to seek office within the Northeast State for a period of twenty-four months, unless such person shall receive from the Program Director written approval to seek candidacy during the next calendar year from the infraction, as specified in Section 2 of Article II of this bylaw.

b) Any candidate who violates a rule set forth in the Junior State code-of-conduct at Spring State shall be disqualified from standing in all elections, and shall be permanently ineligible to seek office within the Northeast State, unless such person shall receive from the Program Director written approval to seek candidacy during the next calendar year from the infraction, as specified in Section 2 of Article II of this bylaw.

Section 16: False Statements Relating to Campaign Expenditures.

a) Any person who knowingly and willfully makes any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation on a declaration of total expenses on goods and services, or other receipt handed in to the FEC, as required by Article III, Subsection 8(c) of this bylaw, shall forfeit their right to vote in all elections occurring within the same calendar year as the infraction occurred.

b) Any candidate who knowingly and willfully makes or permits to be made any materially false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation on a declaration of total expenses on goods and services, or other receipt handed in to the FEC, as required by Article III, Subsection 8(c) of this bylaw, shall be disqualified from standing in all elections, and shall be ineligible to seek office within the Northeast State for a period of twenty-four months.
Section 17: Failure to Abide by Spending Limits.

a) For any candidate who exceeds the spending limit set forth in Article III, Subsection 8(a) of this bylaw or by the FEC Chairperson, including all deductions, for their race by any amount greater than zero percent and not exceeding twenty percent, a public announcement shall be made by the FEC Chairperson before the commencement of voting of the amount by which the candidate exceeded the spending limit for the race.

b) Any candidate who exceeds the spending limit set forth in Article III, Subsection 8(a) of this bylaw or by the FEC Chairperson, including all deductions, for their race by any amount greater than twenty percent, shall be disqualified from standing in all elections.

Section 18: Failure to Submit Financial Data to the FEC.

a) Any candidate who fails to submit information concerning all campaign-related expenditures by any deadline specified in Article III, Subsection 8(d) of this bylaw, shall receive a deduction in spending limit valued in the aggregate at one-fourth the spending limit for the race.

b) Any candidate who fails to submit such information specified in Article III, Subsection 8(d) of this bylaw on more than three (3) distinct deadlines shall be disqualified from standing in all elections.

Section 18: Cabinet Members. The FEC Chairperson shall compile and transmit after Spring State but not after June 1st of the same calendar year, to the Program Director and the Governor-Elect, a detailed list of violations of this bylaw committed by Members of the Northeast Cabinet (graduating members excepted), which must include, but is not limited to, the names of the Members, the dates of the violations, and a detailed description of each violation committed.

a) For any Member of the Northeast Cabinet who violates the provisions of Sections 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, or 11 of Article IV of this bylaw, on more than two separate occasions during a single election season, and who will not be graduating from secondary school during the same academic year as the infractions occurred; an official recommendation may be made at the discretion the FEC Chairperson to the Governor calling for the immediate dismissal of the offender from the Northeast Cabinet, and/or the permanent revocation of eligibility of the offender to serve in any appointed position within the Northeast State.
Article VI: Election Procedure

Section 1: Time of Elections. The elections of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Mayors, and Vice-Mayors shall take place at Spring State.

Section 2: Voter Eligibility. Only tax-paid members of the NES present at the commencement of the voting round may participate in a given round of voting, for State elections. Only tax-paid members of the region for which a given election is taking place, present at the commencement of the voting round, may participate in a given round of voting, for Regional elections.

a) Each member may only have one vote per round.

Section 3: FEC Agents. The Fair Elections Committee shall have the power to commission agents to assist in the administration of the election.

a) FEC agents must be neutral delegates who do not publicly support a candidate at the time of voting.
b) FEC agents may collect literature and other campaign paraphernalia, but they may not allow it to be visible at the time of voting.

Section 4: Ballot Distribution. During each round of voting, ballots shall be distributed to chapters by FEC agents, one ballot per person in each chapter.

a) There shall be one FEC Agent assigned to each chapter, but no FEC Agent may be assigned to their own chapter, and no FEC Agent from a chapter containing a candidate for any office shall be assigned to any other chapter containing a candidate for any office.
b) Before the commencement of elections at Spring State, the FEC Chairperson shall clearly write the school to which each ballot is being distributed in ink, on each ballot, and such markings must be confirmed for accuracy by another member of the Fair Elections Committee.
c) The ballots shall be distributed within the chapter by the Chapter President (or acting Chapter President.)
d) The Chapter President (or acting Chapter President) shall collect all of the ballots from their respective chapter after each member has voted.
e) The Chapter President (or acting Chapter President) shall then count all of the votes and submit the ballots to the chapter’s FEC agent.
f) The FEC agent shall then count the ballots and check the count with the Chapter President. A Member of the FEC shall decide any discrepancies arising in vote count, and the FEC
Official Northeast Junior State Constitution & Code of Laws

Chairperson may decide any discrepancies arising in the vote count after consideration of another Member of the FEC.

  g) After an official count is reached, the ballots shall be brought to the FEC Chairperson.
  h) FEC agents and members will not vote with their chapters. They shall cast their votes secretly before chapters are given ballots.

Section 5: Vote Count Announcement. Each Chapter President (or Acting Chapter President) shall announce the official votes of each round from their chapter. A running count of the results of the election shall be updated as each chapter announces its votes, unless there is technological difficulty.

  a) For the purpose of ensuring confidentiality in counts of secret ballots, representation of votes displayed to the electorate in electronic form shall not under any circumstances display vote counts, but rather shall display percentages for each candidate only.

Section 6: Electoral Procedure. Elections shall take place in a run-off style.

  a) Candidates shall have the opportunity to make a one-minute speech before the commencement of voting.
  b) If a candidate has more than 50% of the votes, then they shall automatically win.
  c) If no candidate has more than a 50% majority, then the candidate with the fewest votes shall be dropped from the ballot.
  d) If any group of candidates has votes that total fewer than the votes of the next highest candidate, then those candidates shall all be removed from the race.
  e) The process of elimination described in this section shall continue until one candidate gains a majority of the votes.
  f) The winning candidate may make a one-minute acceptance speech if they so choose. All other candidates shall have the option of making a one-minute concession speech at the time of their eliminations.

Section 7: Unopposed Candidates. For any election in which only one candidate has been nominated, the FEC Chairperson may conduct the voting by either a hand vote or by unanimous consent, notwithstanding the provisions of Section 6 of this Article.

Section 8: Secret Ballots. A secret ballot may be requested to the FEC Chairperson by any Chapter President (or acting Chapter President) before the commencement of the voting of the first round of a single office’s election. All secret ballots must be requested for in writing. If the FEC Chairperson approves a secret ballot, it shall only apply for the election of one office; however, it shall extend to all rounds of voting for that office’s election. For elections of different offices, a
secret ballot must be requested again. The secret ballot applies for the entire chapter when granted, excluding FEC Agents and Members.

a) Chapters with a candidate running for office must vote by secret ballot for the election of that office.
b) Any person within a chapter with a delegation of eight people or fewer may request a secret ballot for their entire chapter.

Section 9: Secret Ballot Counting Procedure. For any chapter casting votes for an election by secret ballot, the following procedures shall be observed:

a) No FEC Agent appointed by a chapter voting by secret ballot shall be assigned to count the votes of another chapter voting by secret ballot for any election.
b) FEC Agents assigned to chapters voting by secret ballot shall collect all ballots from the chapters to which they are assigned and shall immediately deliver all ballots to the FEC Chairperson.
c) The FEC Chairperson shall count all secret ballots, which shall be confirmed before reporting by an FEC Agent randomly selected by the Governor, that was not appointed from any chapter voting by secret ballot for any election.
d) The FEC Chairperson shall for each round of each election add all secret votes to the total vote count after the main vote count announcement by the Chapter Presidents.

Section 10: Physical Handling of Ballots. After each round of voting, all FEC Agents shall deliver to the FEC Chairperson the collected ballots from the respective chapters to which they each were assigned, and the FEC Chairperson shall seal all ballots from each round of voting in separate boxes, which shall be officially stamped and sealed with a tamper-proof seal and signed by the FEC Chairperson.

a) After the conclusion of elections at Spring State, ballots shall be retained at any reasonably secure location at which the same tamper-proof seal used to seal the boxes is not present, until their certification, at which point they shall be destroyed.

Section 11: Recounts. If the number of votes from chapters voting by secret ballot number enough to decide the winner of any election, an automatic recount of ballots shall be triggered, which shall take place under the supervision of the Fair Elections Committee as soon as possible, at the same location at which ballots are retained.

a) Any candidate may request a recount for their election, regardless of the vote count.
Section 12: Certification of Elections.

a) After the final vote count for an election is confirmed after a recount, the FEC Chairperson shall in writing declare the election to be officially certified.

b) In the absence of a recount, the results of all other elections shall be automatically certified on June 1st.

c) The FEC Chairperson shall make public notice of the certification of elections by displaying a Certificate of Election on the Northeast State’s website and forwarding copies of the same to the Governor and to all candidates for the state or regional office contested in the election.

d) The form of the Certificate of Election shall include:

i) The statement, “I, viz. _______________, as Chairperson of the Fair Elections Committee of the Northeast Junior State do hereby certify that the Committee did supervise the results of the election held on the viz. __th day of viz. ______ in the year viz. _____ for the office(s) of viz. ______________.”

ii) The statement, “In the absence of any recount which may occur between the conclusion of elections at Spring State and 12:00 AM on June 1st following the elections of this calendar year, and in the absence of any Modified Certificate of Election superseding the present certification, I certify the results of this election and declare the following named individuals: viz. ____________ to be duly chosen and elected as: viz. ___________ of viz. ______________, respectively.”

iii) The statement, “In witness whereof, I hereby affix my signature.”

iv) The signature of the Chairperson.

v) The date and location in which the Certificate of Election was executed.

e) In the event of a recount, a Modified Certificate of Election shall be made public for each election recounted, which shall include the following:

i) The statement, “I, viz. _______________, as Chairperson of the Fair Elections Committee of the Northeast Junior State do hereby certify that the Committee did supervise and canvas the results of the election held on the viz. __th day of viz.
in the year viz. _____ for the offices of viz. ______________ and did ascertain that the votes for each nominated candidate in each round of the election was as follows: viz. ______________.”

ii) The total number of recounted votes cast for each candidate in question, including all votes cast by secret ballot, notwithstanding the provisions of Subsection 5(a) of this Article.

iii) The statement, “I certify that the votes for each nominated candidate in the election specified above were independently confirmed by the Governor of the Northeast Junior State and two tax-paid members of the Northeast Junior State selected by democratically-elected Chapter Presidents of chapters under the jurisdiction of the Northeast Junior State and selected at random by the Governor to confirm the votes for each nominated candidate in the elections specified above.”

iv) The statement, “Therefore, I certify the results of this election and declare viz. ______________ to be duly chosen and elected as viz. ___________ of viz. ______________.”

v) The statement, “In witness whereof, I hereby affix my signature.”

vi) The signature of the Chairperson.

vii) The date and location in which the Modified Certificate of Election was executed.

**Article VII: Remaining Powers**

Section 1: General Regulatory Authority of the FEC. Any election procedure not mentioned in this bylaw shall be left to the discretion of the FEC Chairperson.

Section 2: Appeal After Disqualification. In the case of the disqualification of a candidate by the FEC Chairperson, and the subsequent appeal of the decision to the full Fair Elections Committee, the candidate may be reinstated by a four-fifths vote of the Fair Elections Committee.

a) After reinstatement by the Fair Elections Committee, a previously disqualified candidate may not be disqualified again except by a majority vote of the Fair Elections Committee.

Section 3: Supremacy and Passage. This bylaw shall take effect immediately upon passage, and shall supercede all laws of the Northeast State in conflict herewith.
The Fair Elections Act of 2015

One of the founding tenements of the Junior State of America is that it is a student run organization. In order to ensure the integrity of this value, it should carry over to every aspect of the organization. Elections are a crucial part of JSA because they allow students to decide what changes they want to see in their state and region through the election of like minded representatives. If elections are unfairly influenced by non-student actors, the principles that this organization was founded on are left corrupted.

Section 1: The Program Director and all Junior Statesmen Foundation employees, shall not be allowed to attempt to interfere in Northeast State elections unless FEC rules are violated. Therefore, they cannot try to push for or against any candidate.

Section 2: If the Program Director or any other non-student Junior Statesmen Foundation employee is found to be aiding a student's campaign, that student shall be disqualified if the student is found to be conscious of that involvement.

Section 3: If the FEC unanimously recommends a lower penalty, a disqualification may be overturned.

Written by,
Michael Abel, ECR Mayor (2014-2015)

Co-sponsored by:
Frank Kachmar, NES Governor (2014-2015)
Marissa Birne, NES Lieutenant Governor (2014-2015)
Gary Dreyer, NES Chief of Staff (2014-2015)
Jenna Wong, NER Mayor (2014-2015)
SITHS Chapter President, (2014-2015)
Sam Shneyder, ECR Vice Mayor (2014-2015)
Alyssa Wang, NER Vice Mayor (2014-2015)
Parsa Election Reform Act of 2016

(An addition to the existing Code of Laws regarding the election process in the NES).

This amendment is necessary in maintaining the integrity of future elections within the NES and to clarify election procedures for future elections both for future candidates and voting members.

For the purpose of this amendment, the term “off-the-floor candidate” refers to a tax-paid member who has announced their candidacy directly prior to the vote of an election according to the procedures listed below.

Amendment 1
Section 1: In all regional and statewide elections, all candidates eligible in that election alone must be clearly stated by the FEC Chairperson before the voting procedure begins.
   a. Only ballots cast towards aforementioned candidates may be counted as legitimate votes.
   b. Any ballot cast with the name of a candidate that was not officially stated by the FEC Chairperson prior to voting will be invalidated and therefore not counted.
   c. Any ballot cast with an abstention shall be invalidated and therefore not counted.

Clause 1: In the event where there is one candidate running unopposed, there must be a period prior to voting where the FEC Chairperson will open the floor for any tax-paid member to announce their candidacy for that specific position.
   a. In the event where a candidate does come forward, they will have two (2) minutes to deliver a brief statement about their candidacy, followed by a two (2) minute rebuttal against the new candidate delivered by the original candidate.
   b. All off-the-floor candidates are bound to the same FEC rules and regulations as other candidates
   c. An off-the-floor candidate may not be chosen in any other circumstance other than when a candidate is running unopposed.
   d. In the event where there is no off-the-floor candidate to contest an unopposed candidate, that candidate will automatically be elected into office.

Amendment 2
Section 1: Any Chapter President can present an accusation against a Fair Election Committee member for collusion with any candidate
   a. Accusation must be made a week prior to an overnight convention, and both the Governor, FEC Chairperson, and the Program Director must be notified

Section 2: A trial will be held for the FEC member at the next overnight convention.
   a. FEC Chairperson shall serve as the judge. Should the FEC Chairperson be party to the case, the Governor shall serve as the judge.
b. Trial proceedings will be the same to those for an Honor Court.

c. If the FEC member in question is found guilty of accusations, they will be removed off of the Fair Election Committee, effective immediately. Similarly the candidate the FEC member was colluding with will be immediately disqualified.

d. If FEC or JCOCP unanimously recommends a lower penalty, a disqualification for the candidate can be overturned.

Co-sponsor: Karl Meakin, National Chief of Staff (2016-2017)

The Lo Oath of Office Act of 2017

Whereas: There is currently no oath that elected officials take to swear or affirm their support for the office on which they are about to enter.

Section 1: All elected officials, both state and regional, upon being elected, are to publicly take the oath which is written below, in front of the members they are to represent at the same convention they were elected.

“I, [name of person taking oath], do solemnly swear [or affirm] that I will support and uphold the Constitution of the Northeast State of the Junior State of America; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same as well as to the principles of the Junior State of America; that I take this oath freely without mental reservation or purpose of evasion; and that I will faithfully discharge the duties of the office upon which I am about to enter.”

Section 2: This bill is to go into effect immediately upon passage by the Joint Council of Chapter Presidents and approval by the Governor.

Written by: Derek Lo, NES Governor (2017-2018)
Co-Sponsors: Elijah Pomerantz, NES Gubernatorial Chief of Staff (2017-2018)
New Rochelle High School Chapter President (2016-2018)
Patrick Burland, ECR Vice-Mayor (2017-2018)
The Hoffman Gubernatorial Succession Restructuring Amendment of 2018

Each member of Northeast State Cabinet has clearly defined and individualized roles, and therefore each person who serves the Northeast State develops a unique skill set based on his or her experiences. The constitution formerly established one of the roles of the Lieutenant Governor to replace the Governor. However, at the outset of the year, the cabinets under the Lieutenant Governor and the Governor are formed around their unique skill sets, each of whom places a chief of staff with expertise in their specialty areas at the head of their cabinets. It therefore is logical that, should the Governor vacate his or her position, that his or her chief of staff should replace him or her.

Section 1: Amend Article IV Section 3 clause j to read: Upon the resignation or impeachment of the Northeast Governor, the Gubernatorial Chief of Staff shall assume the gubernatorial position and will appoint their replacement after taking office.

Section 2: Strike Article IV Section 4 clause a to read: The Lieutenant Governor shall act as Governor should the Governor be absent or should he/she be incapable of exercising his/her duties for any reason.

Section 3: Add Article IV Section 3 clause k) Should the Governor be absent or should he/she be incapable of exercising his/her duties for any reason, the Gubernatorial Chief of Staff will fulfil his or her duties in the interim.

Written by,
Sarah Hoffman, NES Lieutenant Governor (2017-2018)

Co-sponsored by:
Derek Lo, NES Governor (2017-2018)
Elijah Pomerantz, NES Gubernatorial Chief of Staff (2017-2018), New Rochelle High School Chapter President (2016-2018)
Angela Camara, NES Lieutenant Gubernatorial Chief of Staff (2017-2018), Shelton High School Chapter President (2017-2018)
Lauren Newton, NES Director of Chapter Internal Affairs (2017-2018), Cheshire High School Chapter President (2017-2018)
Anisha Jain, NES Director of Expansion (2017-2018), Amity High School Chapter President (2017-2018)