

Election Supervisory Board Resolution: 2022-004
In Res. Co-Campaigning
(Resolved: Sunday, February 27, 2022)

Election Supervisory Board Vice-Chair Sanjna Reddy delivered the majority opinion of the board:

“In the matter of a candidate publicly supporting other candidates”

Whereas, Section 3.3 of the Student Government Specific Election code reads “PROHIBITED ASSOCIATION. Except in cases of a bona fide executive alliance as provided for in this election code, the prohibition against association means that no candidate is allowed to contribute financially or provide any other form of tangible support to another candidate,

- a. This generally includes, but is not limited to, donating or sharing of campaign materials, campaign money, and campaign organization resources, including people, or jointly soliciting votes between and amongst candidates who are not in a bona fide executive alliance.
- b. Because the purpose of the association rule is to encourage a diverse slate of candidates to compete in a fair and equitable election on the basis of their positions, the association prohibition should be applied only to further this purpose.”

Whereas, Section 3.4 of the Student Government Specific Election code reads “PERMITTED ASSOCIATION. All non-executive alliance candidates in the election must campaign separately, without written or verbal endorsements, collaboration, financial or other tangible support from any fellow candidate in any campus-wide election.”

Whereas, Section 1.1 of the Campus-Wide election code reads “PURPOSE OF CAMPUS-WIDE ELECTION CODE. This code exists to facilitate a fair and educational experience for student governance positions at The University of Texas at Austin.”

Whereas, in the interest of promoting a fair election process, collaboration between running parties is prohibited,

Whereas, Alison Fernandez expressed support for the Leland Murphy and Isabella Agbassi executive alliance on both her personal Instagram page (@alif3rnandez) and 2022 election campaign page (@alison4rep),

Whereas, Section 4.14 of the Campus-Wide election code reads “Within the ranges established by the Election Supervisory Board, the Election Supervisory Board shall select the amount of the fine or length of the suspension most appropriate to both the severity of the infraction and the intent of the violator as determined by the Election Supervisory Board. At the candidate seminar, Election Supervisory Board shall clearly define what would constitute each class of a violation.”

Whereas, slide 31 of the Candidate Seminar presentation defines classes of violations and the notes in the PowerPoint include that an example of a Class C violation would be “Co-Campaigning.”

Whereas, Section 4.13 of the Campus-Wide election code reads “CLASSES OF VIOLATIONS. Class C violations shall result in a combination of moratorium of campaigning and a fine.”

Whereas, the Election Supervisory Board Members present at the hearing has voted to issue a **10% reduction of spending and 24-hour moratorium** on campaigning for co-campaigning; and, therefore, be it,

Resolved, that Alison Fernandez will receive a **10%** reduction in spending for the duration of the 2022 Campus-Wide Election cycle; and

Resolved, that Alison Fernandez will receive a **24-hour** moratorium on all campaign activities, including their agents and workers, beginning **Monday, February 28 at 12:00 AM CST** and ending **Tuesday, March 1 at 12:00 AM**; and

Resolved, that any adversely affected party has the right to appeal this decision pursuant to Section 4.18 of the Campus-Wide Election Code, which reads, “Any party adversely affected by a decision of the Election Supervisory Board may file an appeal with the entity with appellate jurisdiction within twenty-four (24) hours after the adverse decision is announced.”

In conclusion, The Election Supervisory Board submits its resolution on Sunday, February 27, 2022, with the majority of board members who were present at the meeting.

Affirmative Votes:

Jenny Ainsworth (Chair)

Sanjna Reddy (Vice-Chair)

Carlos Torres (Secretary)

Riya Gantla

Maria Munoz

