Resolution # 70-16
The Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA)
The Pennsylvania State University

of the 70th Assembly
October 28, 2020

Be it decided by the Assembly of Elected Delegates,

Constitutional Amendment
Clarifying Constitution Articles XI and XIII
(Decided: [ Y / N / A ])

Nature of the Situation:
Currently, it is unclear that “an act,” as written in the GPSA Constitution Articles XI and XIII, means legislation. Minor adjustments to this wording will allow the Constitution to better reflect this meaning.

Also, the current language describing how referenda may be proposed in Article XI, Section A of the Constitution requires the graduate and professional student body and the Assembly to propose referenda jointly. This could potentially limit both parties in their ability to successfully propose referenda. This can be remedied by changing the word “and” in Article XI, Section A., Line 1, to “or.”

Lastly, the word “brought,” which is used nowhere outside of Article XIII in the Constitution, should be changed to “proposed,” to be consistent with Assembly powers listed in Article VI of the Constitution.

Recommended Course of Action:
It is proposed that the GPSA adopt the following amendments to the GPSA Constitution.

ARTICLE XI – REFERENDA
A referendum shall be defined as a vote of the graduate and professional student body to
decide an action of the GPSA.

SECTION A.
Referenda may be proposed either by:

1. An act of the A resolution proposed by the Assembly; or and

2. A petition of three percent (3%) of the enrolled graduate and professional student body.

 ARTICLE XIII – AMENDMENTS

SECTION A. Constitutional Amendments

1. Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed, at any time, by the Assembly
as a resolution an Act, subject to standard submission and perfection rules.

2. Amendments on the agenda and discussed at a minimum of two Assembly meetings are
eligible to be called to a vote. The Assembly may pass the amendment with a 3/4 vote of the
Assembly.

3. All amendments are subject to approval by the Office of Student Activities, per the
University’s policies for registered Student Government Associations.

SECTION B D. Bylaw Amendments

1. Amendments to the Bylaws may be proposed, at any time, by the Assembly as a
resolution, subject to standard submission and perfection rules.

Respectfully submitted,

Kade Crittenden
Delegate, College of Education

Steven Baksa
Internal Development Committee Chair
At-Large Delegate

President ___________________________________________________      Affirm    Veto

The Graduate and Professional Student Association