

Resolution #GCC21-11

Recruitment of Potential Legacies of Sigma Phi Epsilon

WHEREAS

Sigma Phi Epsilon was founded on the cardinal principles of Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love; and

WHEREAS

The stated desire of the founders was that, “This fraternity will be different;” and

WHEREAS

The national mission statement includes “redefining fraternity on college campuses across the country;” and

WHEREAS

Sigma Phi Epsilon has always been a leader in inclusivity, adopting a resolution at the 1959 Conclave, a time when much of higher education remained segregated, to allow recruitment of candidates of any race, religion, or creed, and becoming the first national fraternity to codify the acceptance of transgender men as members in 2014; and

WHEREAS

Preferential treatment or consideration of legacy candidates for membership presents a codified barrier for entrance into the Fraternity to members of underrepresented minority groups; and

WHEREAS

Brotherly Love is an inclusive term, aimed at all mankind, not an exclusive term aimed only at our membership, and that Brotherly Love directs us to the fair treatment of every human, and

WHEREAS

The national sororities Alpha Omicron Pi Fraternity, Phi Mu Fraternity, Delta Gamma Fraternity, Kappa Alpha Theta, Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority, Alpha Phi International Women’s Fraternity, Phi Sigma Sigma, and Kappa Kappa Gamma have eliminated preferential treatment for, or wholly removed the definition of legacy candidates from standing policies; and

WHEREAS

Undergraduate chapters are evolving bodies, and it is incumbent upon the officers, recruitment boards, and general members of each chapter to recruit candidates that will best contribute to the current state of each chapter; and

WHEREAS

An offer for membership in the Fraternity should be garnered through the character, morality, merit, and individual attributes of a candidate; therefore be it

RESOLVED

That undergraduate chapters shall engage in the holistic review of candidates for membership,

including but not limited to the evaluation of a candidate's individual merit and dedication to the principles of the Fraternity; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED

That the national fraternity and all undergraduate chapters shall strike any provisions providing special consideration or treatment for legacy candidates from any bylaws, policies, procedures, or publications.

Committee: Resolutions Red Committee

Committee Recommends: No Action

Grand Chapter Action: Defeated

Greg Pierson, Chairman, Resolutions Red Committee

57th Grand Chapter Conclave – Denver, Colorado – July 28 – 31, 2021