

SIGMA PHI EPSILON

58th GRAND CHAPTER CONCLAVE (2023)

LEGISLATION

Conclave is the opportunity for our Fraternity to create and modify national bylaws and policies. The Fraternity's future is determined through a legislative process.

All chartered chapters, and Sigma Epsilon Chapters of Sigma Phi Epsilon who meet the qualifications stipulated in the Grand Chapter Bylaws, that are in good standing have one vote. Members of the National Board of Directors and the district governors also each have one vote. SigEp is unlike any other national fraternity in that it is truly undergraduate-led.

FAQs

What is legislation, and why is it important to submit it?

Legislation is how we govern our Fraternity. Just like a chapter votes on its local bylaws, the Grand Chapter must decide on the policies that govern our chapters as a national organization. Since the first Conclave in 1903, each chapter has had a vote in the activities of the Grand Chapter.

To amend the bylaws, proposed changes must be submitted in writing in the form of a resolution, after which a proper review is conducted by a committee of delegates. The legislative process concludes with the opportunity for delegates to vote on each resolution.

How do I submit legislation?

Legislative proposals should be submitted in the attached form to Chief Executive Officer Brian Warren (ceo@sigep.net). If the legislation is not clear, the sponsor will be contacted about the edits needed. Please include the summer contact information for the person(s) submitting the legislation.

What is the deadline for legislation?

We encourage legislation to be submitted by July 3, 2023, so it can be assigned to a committee for review since committee work may begin prior to Conclave. To be considered at the 58th Grand Chapter Conclave, all legislation must be submitted to the legislative manager by the end of the first legislative session on Thursday, August 3, 2023, so the resolution can receive full consideration by committees and the legislative body.

In what format should the legislation be written?

Please refer to instructions on the next page for a general format.

What are some examples of past legislation?

Past legislation has led to major changes in Sigma Phi Epsilon and solidified our reputation as a Fraternity of firsts. It was legislation that abolished membership restrictions based on race and religious affiliation in 1959. It was legislation that created the National Board of Directors and established the Grand Chapter Bylaws. In 2015, it was legislation that eliminated pledging. Any changes or modifications to the Ritual are also done by legislation.

Who can I contact if I have questions regarding the legislative process?

Please send all questions regarding the legislative process to events@sigep.net. A member of the Headquarters staff will respond to all inquiries.

What happens once I submit legislation?

Prior to Conclave, all resolutions submitted will be posted online so that delegates can discuss them with their local chapters.

The work of Conclave is done in committee. As legislative manager, Gene Schurg, Davis & Elkins '77 (longtime volunteer and Order of the Golden Heart recipient), will assign the proposed legislation a number and a committee for review. After the committee has reviewed the resolution, it will report to the general voting body with a recommendation. Recommendations will range from immediate adoption to modifying the original submission to recommending not to vote. The person submitting a resolution is encouraged to attend the committee meeting when his resolution is reviewed.

To create a resolution, complete the shaded portions (utilizing the format directed) in the template below.

The “WHEREAS” statements should reflect the current state of Fraternity policy and why we should change the policy. The “RESOLVED” statements are the desired action if the motion is adopted. Only the “RESOLVED” portion will be added to the permanent record of the Fraternity, so it should reflect all proposed policy or bylaws amendments.

TEMPLATE

Resolution #:

WHEREAS

Sigma Phi Epsilon text for the first “WHEREAS” statement, keeping in mind that the entire resolution should read as one very long sentence; and

WHEREAS

the next line begins with lowercase and each “WHEREAS” ends with a semicolon and the word “and”; and

WHEREAS

each section leads to the next section until the final “WHEREAS”; therefore be it

RESOLVED

that the following actions for each resolved section; and be it

RESOLVED

be followed by the next section; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED

and the final resolved ends in a period.

Committee: TBD

Committee Recommends: TBD

Grand Chapter Action: TBD

, Chairman, (committee)

58th Grand Chapter Conclave – San Antonio, Texas – August 2 – 5, 2023