

# BYLAWS of the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School

## ARTICLE 1. DEFININTIONS

- Adequate Notice:** Examples of adequate notice include publication in the VLS Forum, notice on the SBA bulletin board, electronic communications to all students (including email and posting on the SBA website), and inclusion in any regularly published schedule of events prepared by the school.
- Continuing Classes:** Those students advancing in the next academic year to the second and third year classes of the Juris Doctor Program.
- Funds Eligible Student Group:** A Recognized Student Group that has taken the extra measures to be authorized by the SBA Senate to be eligible to receive funding from the SBA.
- Official Senate Meeting Times:** Includes all Regular and Special Meetings of the Senate, Budget Meetings, and any and all events designated by the Senate in the Standing Rules or from time to time decides by a majority vote to be official. Includes select board meetings for the Town Liaison.
- Presiding Officer:** The person who runs a meeting of the Senate and who is responsible for controlling the floor. The Presiding Officer will only vote in the event of a tie vote.
- Quorum:** The minimum number of members who must be present for the vote to be valid or a meeting to be legally held.
- Ratification:** The process by which the SBA approves of bylaws changes and amendments. This process is outlined in § 12.2.
- Recognized Student Group:** Groups on campus that have been recognized under § 4.5 of these Bylaws by the SBA Senate. These groups are eligible to use the name "Vermont Law School" in their title; be assigned space in Vermont Law School buildings and on Vermont Law School grounds for meetings and other sponsored events; and address the Senate as an organization and seek its assistance in all matters relevant to the SBA.
- Regularly Scheduled Senate Meeting:** The meetings of the Senate that occur on a regular scheduled basis. Traditionally, this is the weekly (or less frequent) meeting scheduled on Tuesday.
- Special Committee:** Temporary SBA Committees established by the Senate to address specific needs of the SBA and its members.
- Standing Committee:** Permanent SBA Committees which are authorized by these Bylaws in § 6.3.
- Student Bar Association (SBA):** All students of Vermont Law School who are enrolled as candidates for the Juris Doctor Degree (J.D.), the Masters of Studies in Environmental Law (M.S.E.L.), the Master of Law (LL.M), and any other degree programs authorized by Vermont Law School.
- Super Majority Yes Vote:** Once the quorum is reached, with quorum levels set in the subsections of the Bylaws, two-thirds of the members present vote yes for the proposal
- Vermont Law School Community:** The VLS Community includes the SBA, the Faculty, and the Staff..

# BYLAWS of the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School

## ARTICLE 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS

### § 2.1 Name

This Association shall be known as the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School, hereinafter referred to as the "SBA."

### § 2.2 Objectives

The purpose of the SBA is to support and encourage academic excellence and professional growth among students; insure the attainment and preservation of the rights of the individual student to acquire a quality legal education in a just and reasonable manner; and serve as the vehicle for interaction and communication between the students and the faculty, administration, alumni, and the community.

### § 2.3 Antidiscrimination

This SBA shall not discriminate on the basis of ancestry, color, or race; cultural or ethnic background; economic circumstance; ideological, philosophical, or political belief or affiliation; marital or parental status; national or regional origin; physical disability; religion, or religious or denominational affiliation; sex; sexual orientation; or age. The SBA shall not encourage or condone discrimination, either implicitly or explicitly, and shall actively discourage discrimination on any such basis.

## ARTICLE 3. MEMBERSHIP

### § 3.1 Regular Membership

All students of Vermont Law School who are enrolled as candidates for the Juris Doctor Degree (J.D.), the Masters of Studies in Environmental Law (M.S.E.L.), the Master of Law (LL.M), and any other degree programs authorized by Vermont Law School, shall be regular members of the SBA. Such members are entitled to the full benefits of membership and to attend all meetings of the Senate.

### § 3.2 Faculty Representation

The Faculty of the Law School may appoint a faculty representative to this SBA, as a non-voting member.

### § 3.3 Administration Representation

The Administration of the Law School may appoint an administrative representative to this SBA, as a non-voting member.

### § 3.4 Membership Dues

Such regular member who is registered for the Fall Semester shall pay to the Treasurer of the Law School, as Annual Membership Dues, a non-refundable fee of not less than seventy-five dollars, due and payable with tuition each September. The amount of the Membership Dues is subject to increase only by a majority vote of the SBA through a referendum ballot. The Finance Committee shall publish adequate notice of the referendum ballot at least ten (10) days prior to the date of a vote.

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## § 3.5 Rights Reserved to the Membership

### A. Referendum

By submitting a petition to the Secretary of the SBA that contains the valid signatures of twenty percent or more current members of the SBA, any member may require a vote by general referendum on any issue regarding the Student Bar Association, including its policies and appropriations. A majority vote on a referendum shall be controlling and conclusive. When in conflict with a vote of the Senate, the referendum shall prevail. The Secretary shall hold such voting within fourteen (14) days (excluding vacation periods) after receipt of the petition. Any dispute regarding referendums shall be submitted to the Elections Committee. An appeal from the Elections Committee shall go to the Honor Code Committee and be bound by its determination.

### B. Recall

The elected Senate Members may be removed from office by the SBA through the process of recall. A recall shall be governed by the same provisions as a referendum, except:

1. A Super Majority Yes Vote is required to recall a voting member of the Senate; and
2. A petition for recall must clearly set forth all charges and must allege at least one of the following:
  - a. A willful violation of any provisions of these Bylaws, or
  - b. Malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance of office.

### C. Access to Information

All members of the SBA have the right to review and have access to the SBA Handbook, copies of which are to be kept on reserve in the Law School Library and in the SBA Office. Information in the SBA Handbook shall also be published on the SBA website. The SBA Handbook shall include:

1. The SBA Bylaws;
2. Standing Rules and Policy Statements;
3. Judicial hearing procedures;
4. All periodic reports regarding expenditures and allocations made by the Treasurer to the Senate;
5. A reasonably current statement indicating the financial condition of the SBA; and
6. Copies of the minutes of all Senate meetings of the current academic year.

## ARTICLE 4. ORGANIZATION OF THE SENATE

### § 4.1 Role of the Senate

The Senate shall be the governing body of the SBA and shall formulate its policies and supervise its activities. All members of the Senate shall be in good academic standing. It shall have all powers prescribed by and necessary for the proper execution of the Bylaws including, but not limited to the following:

- A. To consider resolutions and policy statements regarding any and all issues of concern to the SBA, generally no sooner than seven days from whence they are proposed, these issues include but are not limited to:
  1. The law school's status/recognition and any plans/planning to improve such status/recognition;
  2. Academic grading issues and testing procedures;

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- 161 3. Professorial evaluations and evaluation follow-up;  
162 4. Posting of grade information; and  
163 5. The efficiency, costs, and availability of services provided, utilized, and needed by the  
164 SBA.  
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166 B. To appropriate all SBA funds;  
167 C. To establish its own procedures consistent with these Bylaws;  
168 D. To establish standing and special committees pursuant to these Bylaws;  
169 E. To ratify or reject by majority vote any student membership to a standing committee;  
170 F. To require reports (written or verbal as directed by these Bylaws, the Standing Rules, or the  
171 Senate) from the standing committees, special committees, and from any organization  
172 receiving appropriations from the SBA;  
173 G. To enter into contracts on behalf of and in the best interest of the SBA or the Law School  
174 according to rules adopted by the Senate in the Standing Rules;  
175 H. To remove from the Senate, as per § 4.4, any elected member who fails to attend seventy-  
176 five percent (75%) of Official Senate Meeting Times.  
177 I. To provide and foster a harmonious academic and social environment amongst members of  
178 the law school community  
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## 180 § 4.2 Structure of the Senate

181 The Senate shall consist of the following:

### 182 A. Executive Officers

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184 In addition to other duties, the executive officers of the SBA shall have the collective power  
185 and responsibility to provide executive direction for the SBA and the Senate to ensure its  
186 smooth operation.  
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#### 189 1. President

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191 a. Vote: the President, when acting as the Presiding Officer, shall vote only in the case  
192 of a tie vote of the Senate.  
193 b. Elected: SBA members in the Continuing Classes elect the President in the Spring  
194 election according to provisions in Article 8. Students in the Continuing Classes are  
195 eligible for the position.  
196 c. Duties and Responsibilities:  
197 i. To possess the chief responsibility of actively pursuing, and ensuring that, issues  
198 of concern to the SBA are addressed by the Senate  
199 ii. To ensure that the Roles of the Senate are actively pursued;  
200 iii. To call to order and act as Presiding Officer of any regular and special meetings  
201 of the Executive Committee, Senate, and/or the SBA;  
202 iv. To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;  
203 v. To know and employ in all meetings proper parliamentary procedure as indicated  
204 in Article 10 of these Bylaws;  
205 vi. To meet with VLS Administration on a regular basis, as set out in the Standing  
206 Rules, to discuss and vigorously pursue issues of concern to the SBA;  
207 vii. To appoint chairs of standing and special committees with majority consent of the  
208 Senate unless otherwise specified in Article 6;  
209 viii. To issue instruction to the committees and to ensure that their duties are faithfully  
210 executed;  
211 ix. To approve the signing of SBA checks by the Treasurer;  
212 x. To serve as emergency signor of checks in the absence or death of the  
213 Treasurer. Emergency and absence shall be defined in the Standing Rules;  
214 xi. To chair the Executive Committee;  
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- 216 xii. To keep the SBA informed and to assure access to information regarding the
- 217 SBA and the Senate;
- 218 xiii. To determine and post the agenda for all Senate subject to the majority's
- 219 approval upon challenge;
- 220 xiv. To attend/partake in at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all Official Senate
- 221 Meeting Times; and
- 222 xv. To perform other duties as indicated in the Standing Rules and those that the
- 223 Senate may assign from time to time.

## 2. Vice President

- 227 a. Vote: the Vice President shall have one vote in the Senate.
- 228 b. Elected: SBA members in the Continuing Classes elect the Vice President in the
- 229 Spring election according to provisions in Article 8. Students in the Continuing
- 230 Classes are eligible for the position.
- 231 c. Duties and Responsibilities
- 232 i. To perform the duties of the President of the SBA in the event of his/her
- 233 absence;
- 234 ii. To succeed to the Presidency, should that office become vacant;
- 235 iii. To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
- 236 iv. To chair the Student Activities Committee;
- 237 v. To attend/partake in at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all Official Senate
- 238 Meeting Times; and
- 239 vi. To perform other duties as indicated in the Standing Rules and those that the
- 240 Senate may assign from time to time.

## 3. Treasurer

- 244 a. Vote: The Treasurer shall have one vote in the Senate.
- 245 b. Elected: SBA members in the Continuing Classes elect the Treasurer in the Spring
- 246 election according to provisions in Article 8. Students eligible for the position include
- 247 those in the Continuing Classes that also meet the following requirements
- 248 (possession of which shall be determined by the then current Executive Committee at
- 249 the advice of the current Treasurer):
- 250 i. Familiarity with accounting systems and software in use by the Senate for that
- 251 purpose;
- 252 ii. Experience using and developing spreadsheets;
- 253 iii. Familiarity with budgeting processes and account management; and
- 254 iv. Any particular requirements as the Senate may determine in its Standing Rules.
- 255 c. Duties and Responsibilities
- 256 i. To advise the Senate, the SBA, and student groups on financial considerations
- 257 affecting the SBA;
- 258 ii. To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
- 259 iii. To have charge and custody of, and be responsible for, all funds of the SBA;
- 260 iv. To hold the checkbook of and serve as the signor of checks for the SBA,;
- 261 v. To prepare the General Fund Budget for presentation to the Executive
- 262 Committee and Senate according to these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
- 263 vi. To prepare the Activity Fund Budget for presentation to the Finance Committee
- 264 and Senate according to these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
- 265 vii. To pay all bills authorized by the Senate;
- 266 viii. To deliver funds consistent with the budgeting procedures adopted by the
- 267 Senate;
- 268 ix. To keep permanent records of all receipts and expenditures of the SBA;
- 269 x. To keep the books open to the membership for examination in his/her presence;
- 270 xi. To ensure the proper application of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules to the
- 271 fundraising efforts of the SBA and the Senate;

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- 272 xii. To submit a financial statement at all Regular Meetings of the Senate and to
- 273 provide monthly summaries with copies to all members of the Senate;
- 274 xiii. To prepare an annual report for presentation during the last week of classes in
- 275 the spring semester;
- 276 xiv. To deliver funds promptly once they are allocated and requested consistent with
- 277 the budgeting procedures as adopted by the Senate;
- 278 xv. To chair the Finance Committee;
- 279 xvi. To serve as Presiding Officer of the Senate Budget Meetings;
- 280 xvii. To attend/partake in at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all Official Senate
- 281 Meeting Times; and
- 282 xviii. To perform other duties as indicated in the Standing Rules and those
- 283 that the Senate may assign from time to time.

## 4. Secretary

- 286 a. Voting: the Secretary shall have one vote in the Senate.
- 287 b. Elected: SBA members in the Continuing Classes elect the Secretary in the Spring
- 288 election according to provisions in Article 8. Students in the Continuing Classes are
- 289 eligible for the position.
- 290 c. Duties and Responsibilities
- 291 i. To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
- 292 ii. To take minutes of all Regular and Special Meetings of the Senate;
- 293 iii. To post such minutes subject to amendment and approval by the Senate, with
- 294 copies to the members of the Senate, within five days after approval, including
- 295 the name and vote of each party;
- 296 iv. To record attendance at all meetings for inclusion in the minutes;
- 297 v. To keep on file and reserve all committee reports and all minutes of Senate
- 298 meetings;
- 299 vi. To keep on file and reserve all opinions of the Parliamentarian;
- 300 vii. To keep official membership rolls and records of attendance;
- 301 viii. To acquire and keep on file a listing of all students from the Registrar;
- 302 ix. To notify the membership of all meetings;
- 303 x. To handle all correspondence of the Senate and the SBA;
- 304 xi. To receive and promptly distribute all SBA mail;
- 305 xii. To gather and maintain historical records of the SBA;
- 306 xiii. To coordinate all publicity of the SBA and the Senate;
- 307 xiv. To take responsibility and account for SBA keys;
- 308 xv. To chair the Elections Committee;
- 309 xvi. To see that all elections/referendums follow the election procedures in these
- 310 Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
- 311 xvii. To ensure that prior to each election candidates have a public forum to express
- 312 their views in a manner determined by the Senate in the Standing Rules;
- 313 xviii. To serve as custodian of the official seal of the SBA;
- 314 xix. To attend/partake in at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all Official Senate
- 315 Meeting Times; and
- 316 xx. To perform other duties as indicated in the Standing Rules and those that the
- 317 Senate may assign from time to time.
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## B. Voting Senate Members

### 1. Juris Doctor Class Senators

- a. Number: there shall be five Senators elected from each of the three Juris Doctor Classes (1L, 2L, and 3L).
- b. Vote: each Senator shall have one vote in the Senate.
- c. Elected: SBA members in each Juris Doctor class elect their respective Juris Doctor Senators according to provisions in Article 8. Students in the Continuing Classes are eligible for the 2L and 3L Senator positions and are elected in the Spring elections prior to the academic year of their terms. Incoming first year students are eligible for the 1L Senator positions and are elected in the Fall elections to serve in the academic year of their election.
- d. Duties and Responsibilities
  - i. To confer with non-voting and voting membership on questions of importance before the Senate;
  - ii. To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
  - iii. To take polls or seek the opinions of their constituents and other members of the SBA with regard to proposed SBA legislation, rules, procedure, or proposed or considered actions;
  - iv. To introduce SBA legislation, suggestions, or criticisms at Regular or Special Meetings of the Senate;
  - v. To participate as a member of at least one Senate Standing Committee;
  - vi. To attend/partake in at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all Official Senate Meeting Times; and
  - vii. To perform other duties as provided indicated in the Standing Rules and those that the Senate may assign from time to time.

### 2. Non-Juris Doctor Senator(s)

- a. Number: there shall be one Senator elected from each of the non-Juris Doctor programs then in existence at the law school.
- b. Vote: each Senator shall have one vote in the Senate.
- c. Elected: SBA members in each non-Juris Doctor program shall elect their Senator in the Fall election according to provisions in Article 8. Students enrolled in each program at time of election are eligible for their respective program's Senate position.
- d. Duties and Responsibilities
  - i. To confer with non-voting and voting membership on questions of importance before the Senate;
  - ii. To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
  - iii. To take polls or seek the opinions of their constituents and other members of the SBA with regard to proposed SBA legislation, rules, procedure, or proposed or considered actions;
  - iv. To introduce legislation, suggestions, or criticisms at Regular or Special Meetings of the Senate;
  - v. To participate as a member of at least one Senate Standing Committee;
  - vi. To attend/partake in at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all Official Senate Meeting Times; and
  - vii. To perform other duties as indicated in the Standing Rules and those that the Senate may assign from time to time.

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3. Town Liaison
    - a. Number: there shall be one Town Liaison elected from the membership at-large of the SBA.
    - b. Vote: the Town Liaison shall have one vote in the Senate.
    - c. Elected: SBA members in the Continuing Classes elect the Town Liaison in the Spring election according to provisions in Article 8. Students in the Continuing Classes are eligible for the position.
    - d. Duties and Responsibilities
      - i. To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
      - ii. To serve as representative of the Law School to the South Royalton Board of Selectmen, the Town Clerk, the School District, and local merchants within the Town;
      - iii. To be known to those parties and coordinate with student-town functions in order to foster productive community relations;
      - iv. To attend regular select board meetings and the annual Town Meeting as a representative of the SBA;
      - v. To report to the Senate appropriate information, requests, or complaints;
      - vi. Otherwise to have the same duties and responsibilities as Senators;
      - vii. To attend/partake in at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all Official Senate Meeting Times; and
      - viii. To perform other duties as indicated in the Standing Rules and those that the Senate may assign from time to time.

## 395 C. Non-voting Senate Members

### 396 1. Student Trustees

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- a. Number: there shall be one Student Trustee elected from each of the Continuing Classes for a total of two Student Trustees.
  - b. Vote: each Student Trustees shall have one vote on the Vermont Law School Board of Trustees. They shall be non-voting members of the Senate.
  - c. Elected: SBA members in each of the Continuing Classes elect their respective Student Trustee in the Spring election according to provisions in Article 8. Students in the Continuing Classes are eligible for their respective Student Trustee position.
  - d. Duties and Responsibilities
    - i. To represent the SBA as full voting members of the Vermont Law School Board of Trustees;
    - ii. To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
    - iii. To hold two open meetings (one in the Fall prior to the end of November and one in the Spring prior to the end of March) with the SBA to inform the membership and gather information to assist the Trustees in their representation;
    - iv. To keep the Senate informed on a regular basis of the activities of the Board of Trustees and any Committees on which the Student Trustees sit;
    - v. To attend at least one meeting per month of the Senate and additionally as requested by the Executive Committee or the Senate.

### 418 2. Student Members of Vermont Law School Committees

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- a. Number: there shall be students elected to each of the then currently existing Vermont Law School Committees. Committee student membership is subject to rules generated by each committee as published by the VLS Administration. At the time of passage of these Bylaws committee membership is:
    - i. Honor Code Committee: there shall be one representative elected from each of the J.D. classes for a total of three student representatives.

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- ii. Code of Conduct Committee: there shall be one representative elected from each of the J.D. classes for a total of three student representatives.
  - iii. Curriculum Committee: there shall be one representative elected from each of the J.D. classes for a total of three student representatives.
  - iv. Faculty Hiring Committee: there shall be one representative elected from each of the J.D. classes for a total of three student representatives.
  - b. Vote: each Student Member of a Vermont Law School Committee shall have one vote on their respective committees. They shall be non-voting members of the Senate.
  - c. Elected: SBA members in each class shall elect their respective Law School Committee representatives according to provisions in Article 8. Students in the Continuing Classes are eligible for the Law School Committee positions for the 2L and 3L classes and are elected in the Spring elections. Incoming first year students are eligible for the Law School Committee positions for the 1L class and are elected in the Fall elections.
  - d. Duties and Responsibilities
    - i. To represent the SBA as members of their respective Committees;
    - ii. To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
    - iii. To keep the Senate informed on a regular basis of the activities of their Committee;
    - iv. To attend at least one meeting per month of the Senate and additionally as requested by the Executive Committee or the Senate.
3. Parliamentarian
- a. Number: there shall be one Parliamentarian appointed by the President with the approval of the Senate.
  - b. Vote: the Parliamentarian shall be a non-voting member of the Senate.
  - c. Appointed: the President shall appoint a Parliamentarian from the membership at-large of the SBA at the first Regular Meeting of the Senate over which the President presides. The appointment shall be subject to a majority approval of the Senate.
  - d. Duties and Responsibilities
    - i. To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
    - ii. To resolve ambiguities in, to clarify, and to interpret the Bylaws and Standing Rules;
    - iii. To write opinions on decisions reached under § 4.2(C)(3)(d)(i) which will be binding unless revoked by the Parliamentarian or a Super Majority Yes Vote of all current members of the Senate;
    - iv. To chair the Bylaws Committee;
    - v. To attend/partake in at least seventy-five percent (75%) of all Official Senate Meeting Times; and
    - vi. To perform other duties as indicated in the Standing Rules and those that the Senate may assign from time to time.
4. ABA/LSD Representative
- a. Number: there shall be one Representative to the American Bar Association/Law School Division appointed by the President with the approval of the Senate.
  - b. Vote: the ABA/LSD Representative shall be a non-voting member of the Senate.
  - c. Appointed: the President shall appoint an ABA/LSD Representative from the membership at-large of the SBA at the first Regular Meeting of the Senate over which the President presides. The appointment shall be subject to a majority approval of the Senate.
  - d. Duties and Responsibilities
    - i. To represent the SBA before the American Bar Association Law School Division;
    - ii. To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;

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- 482                   iii. To keep the Senate and the SBA informed of the activities of the ABA/LSD;
- 483                   iv. To attend at least one meeting per month of the Senate and additionally as
- 484                         requested by the Executive Committee or the Senate; and
- 485                   v. To perform other duties as indicated in the Standing Rules and those that the
- 486                         Senate may assign from time to time.

## 5. Athletic/Outdoor Activities Coordinator

- 490           a. Number: there shall be one Athletic/Outdoor Activities Coordinator appointed by the
- 491                 President with the approval of the Senate.
- 492           b. Vote: the Athletic/Outdoor Activities Coordinator shall be a non-voting member of the
- 493                 Senate.
- 494           c. Appointed: the President shall appoint an Athletic/Outdoor Activities Coordinator
- 495                 from the membership at-large of the SBA at the first Regular Meeting of the Senate
- 496                 over which the President presides. The appointment shall be subject to a majority
- 497                 approval of the Senate.
- 498           d. Duties and Responsibilities
- 499                 i. To inventory and catalog all Vermont Law School and SBA owned athletic
- 500                         equipment;
- 501                         ii. To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
- 502                         iii. To ensure the retention of equipment from one year to the next;
- 503                         iv. To collect and store all equipment during the summer;
- 504                         v. To resolve any conflicts arising from the use of the equipment;
- 505                         vi. To coordinate with appropriate town authorities for the use of town athletic
- 506                         facilities;
- 507                         vii. To chair the Athletic/Outdoor Activities Committee;
- 508                         viii. To keep the Senate informed of the condition and location of equipment;
- 509                         ix. To attend at least one meeting per month of the Senate and additionally as
- 510                         requested by the Executive Committee or the Senate; and
- 511                         x. To perform other duties as indicated in the Standing Rules and those that the
- 512                         Senate may assign from time to time.

## 6. IT Coordinator/Webmaster

- 516           a. Number: there shall be one IT Coordinator/Webmaster.
- 517           b. Vote: the IT Coordinator/Webmaster shall be a non-voting member of the Senate.
- 518           c. Selection: the President on the advice of the then current IT Coordinator/Webmaster
- 519                 shall select an IT Coordinator/Webmaster for the following year from the membership
- 520                 at-large of the SBA at the last Regular Meeting of the Senate in February. There is a
- 521                 need to fill this position as soon as practicable in order that the current IT
- 522                 Coordinator/Webmaster can have input in the selection and training of their
- 523                 successor. Requirements for the position include:
- 524                         i. Familiarity with web design software in use by the Senate for that purpose;
- 525                         ii. Familiarity with the current SBA website
- 526           d. Duties and Responsibilities
- 527                 i. To be the liaison amongst the SBA, the Senate and the Vermont Law School IT
- 528                         Department;
- 529                         ii. To read and comply with all provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
- 530                         iii. To chair the IT Committee;
- 531                         iv. Maintain SBA website with current information regarding SBA activities and
- 532                         information;
- 533                         v. Provide advice to the President about selection of the IT Coordinator/Webmaster
- 534                         for the following year;
- 535                         vi. Provide information and training to the incoming IT Coordinator/Webmaster;
- 536                         vii. To attend at least one meeting per month of the Senate and additionally as
- 537                         requested by the Executive Committee or the Senate.



# BYLAWS of the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School

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## A. Elected Positions:

1. The Senate will decide by majority vote whether to fill such vacancies by majority vote or declare that a special election shall be held of the SBA. Vacancies in the following positions may only be filled by a special election: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and Board of Trustees Representatives.
2. Class specific positions shall only be filled with members of the respective class. Executive Committee positions shall only be filled with members of the then current 2L and 3L classes. Other positions shall be filled from the SBA at-large.
3. Adequate notice of vacancy shall be issued to the Senate and the SBA that describes the vacancy and the election procedures that will be followed in filling the position.
4. Vacancies shall be filled by a vote taken at a regular meeting of the Senate, or through special election, no sooner than seven days from issuing the notice of vacancy.
5. The President may make special temporary appointments to fill vacancies of Student Members of Vermont Law School Committees when the Senate is not in session. Upon return to session, the Senate shall promptly fill the position as above.

## B. Appointed or Selected Positions:

1. The President shall appoint or select a replacement to fill such vacancies as soon as is possible from the SBA at-large.
2. Appointments and selections shall be official upon the approval of the Senate pursuant to position descriptions in § 4.2.
3. The President may make special temporary appointments or selections to fill vacancies when the Senate is not in session. The Senate shall approve or decline such appointments or selections as soon as is possible.

## § 4.5 Student Groups

Student Groups may be approved as a Recognized Student Group. Once approved as a Recognized Student Group, that group may seek approval as a Funds Eligible Student Group in order to receive SBA funding. Groups receiving academic credit from Vermont Law School, including but not limited to Academic Moot Courts, Vermont Law Review and Res Communes, shall be exempt from governance by these rules. Student Groups that were recognized prior to the passage of this section (Spring 2002) shall re-apply for recognition under this new format, except that they will not be required to exist for the sixteen week period for Funds Eligible status as in § 4.5(B)(2) below (as long as their recognition petition is received during the Spring 2002 semester).

### A. Recognized Student Groups

1. Privileges: A Recognized Student Group may:
  - a. use the name "Vermont Law School" in its title;
  - b. be assigned space in Vermont Law School buildings and on Vermont Law School grounds for meetings and other sponsored events; and
  - c. address the Senate as an organization and seek its assistance in all matters relevant to the SBA.
2. Recognition: A group seeking recognition shall give proper notice as provided in the Standing Rules and present to the SBA Secretary at a regularly scheduled Senate meeting a print and electronic copy of the group's bylaws (including a mission statement of purpose and goals), a list of officers (including a president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary or their equivalents), and a statement of how the group will provide for the interest and needs of the SBA in a way not currently satisfied by existing groups. A majority vote of the Senate shall be required for approval of recognition.
3. Continued Recognition: To remain recognized a group will comply with these Bylaws and the Standing Rules. The group shall submit an updated copy of their bylaws and current

# BYLAWS of the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School

645 list of officers to the SBA Secretary at the beginning of the Fall Semester each year.  
646 Failure to comply with the provisions of these Bylaws and the Standing Rules will result in  
647 the group falling out of recognition.  
648

## 649 B. Funds Eligible Student Groups

- 650
- 651 1. Privileges: A Funds Eligible Student Group may:
    - 652 a. have all the privileges as a Recognized Student Group; and
    - 653 b. apply for SBA funding pursuant to these Bylaws and the Standing Rules.
  - 654 2. Recognition: Any Recognized Student Group that has existed for sixteen weeks in which  
655 the J.D. Program is in session may submit a petition to the SBA Secretary (providing  
656 proper notice pursuant to the Standing Rules) at a regularly scheduled Senate meeting  
657 outlining the general purpose for seeking SBA funding and how the funding of the group  
658 will enhance the SBA. A majority vote of the Senate shall be required for approval of  
659 recognizing a group as Funds Eligible. Funds Eligible Student Groups may then apply for  
660 funding during the next semester budget process.
  - 661 3. Continued Recognition: To remain funds eligible a group will comply with these Bylaws  
662 and the Standing Rules. The group shall submit an updated copy of their bylaws and  
663 current list of officers to the SBA Secretary prior to each Fall Semester's budget  
664 application due date. Group Treasurers will also keep on file and open to examination  
665 accurate records of the group's finances. Failure to comply with the provisions of these  
666 Bylaws and the Standing Rules will result in the group falling out of Funds Eligible status.  
667 Groups must wait one complete semester before petitioning for funds eligibility in the  
668 future.  
669  
670

## 671 **ARTICLE 5. MEETINGS OF THE SENATE**

### 672 § 5.1 Frequency

673 The Senate must meet at a regularly scheduled day and time at least twice per month during the  
674 months of September through November, and February through April. All meetings of the Senate  
675 shall be open to the members of the Student Bar Association to attend.  
676  
677

### 678 § 5.2 Quorum Requirement for Official Meetings

679 A quorum shall exist when one more than half the voting members are present. The Secretary  
680 shall inform the President or Presiding officer when a quorum is present at the beginning of  
681 meetings of the Senate and from time to time if a quorum question is raised.  
682  
683

### 684 § 5.3 Scheduling

685 At least one meeting a month shall be scheduled during regular school hours.  
686  
687

### 688 § 5.4 Special Meetings

689 Special meetings may be called at the request of the Dean of the Law School, the President of  
690 the Student Bar Association, or at least seven voting members of the Senate.  
691  
692

### 693 § 5.5 Notice

694 Notice of a meeting shall be given at least three days prior to Regular Meetings of the Senate,  
695 and at least twenty-four hours prior to Special Meetings. The agenda shall be posted  
696 electronically and on the SBA bulletin board at least seventy-two hours before a Regular Meeting  
697 and twenty-four hours before a Special Meeting. All members of the SBA are encouraged to  
698 submit issues for discussion at and to participate in meetings of the Senate.  
699  
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# BYLAWS of the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School

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702 § 5.6 Proxy

703  
704 A Voting Member of the Senate or an Executive Officer who plans to be absent from a meeting  
705 may provide written notice to the Secretary prior to any meeting that they have given their proxy  
706 to vote to another Voting Member or Executive Officer pursuant to guidelines established by the  
707 Senate in the Standing Rules. Proxies do not contribute to any quorum requirement. The  
708 Executive Officers may not vote more than two (2) proxies per Executive Officer and the  
709 Executive Officers as a group may not vote more than four (4) proxies.  
710

711  
712 **ARTICLE 6. COMMITTEES**

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714 § 6.1 Board of Trustees

715  
716 One student from each of the Continuing Classes shall be elected to serve on the Board of  
717 Trustees of Vermont Law School. Student Trustees serve on an equal basis with other members  
718 of the Board of Trustees and have full voting rights in all matters before the Board. Elected  
719 pursuant to the provisions of Article 7 and the Standing Rules adopted by the Senate, Student  
720 Trustees shall serve a term of one year during which the Board meets every three months. As  
721 student liaisons between the student body and the Board of Trustees, the Student Trustees shall  
722 seek to represent the views of the SBA before the Board. The Student Trustees shall attend at  
723 least one meeting a month of the Senate in order to apprise the SBA of their activities and to  
724 learn of the SBA's views immediately prior to each scheduled Board of Trustees meeting.  
725

726 § 6.2 Vermont Law School Committees

727  
728 Members of the SBA shall be elected, as per § 4.2(C)(2), to serve on the student/faculty/staff  
729 committees of the Law School. The Student Handbook and/or the Dean shall determine the title  
730 and purpose of the Law School Committees. Student members of the Law School Committees  
731 shall attend at least one meeting a month of the Senate to report on committee activities, and  
732 when requested by the Executive Committee or a majority of the Senate.  
733

734 § 6.3 SBA Standing Committees

735  
736 Where not expressly identified the President shall appoint the chair of the committee and its  
737 Senate representatives. The Chair may add other people to that committee as is deemed  
738 appropriate to accomplish its purpose unless otherwise noted. Every class Senator shall serve  
739 on at least one Standing Committee. Non-Juris Doctor Senators need only sit on one committee  
740 each. The Executive Committee must provide to newly elected Senators, promptly after they are  
741 elected, a list of all Standing and Special Committees (with names of current chairpersons and  
742 members) and must offer them reasonable opportunity to be appointed to a committee(s) of their  
743 choice.  
744

- 745 A. Executive Committee – The Executive Committee shall be composed of the President, Vice-  
746 President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Membership is restricted to these specific individuals.  
747 The Executive Committee shall assist the President in guiding the direction of the Senate and  
748 developing the agenda. It shall meet on a regular basis at least as often as the Regularly  
749 Scheduled Senate Meetings and as indicated in the Standing Rules.
- 750 B. Audit Committee – The Audit Committee shall be composed of one Senate representative  
751 from each of the three J.D. classes, to be appointed by the President and subject to approval  
752 by the Senate. Its purpose will be to review the books of the SBA each winter prior to the  
753 spring elections and again prior to the last Regular Senate Meeting and report its findings to  
754 the Senate.

# BYLAWS of the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School

- 755 C. Awards Committee – The Awards Committee shall be composed of at least three members of  
756 the SBA. Its purposes shall include recommending people to the Senate for recognition each  
757 year. The committee shall be formed no later than the end of February.
- 758 D. Finance Committee – The Finance Committee shall be composed of one Senate  
759 representative from each class and will be chaired by the Treasurer. Its purpose will be to  
760 review requests for funds and recommend allocation of available funds to be approved by the  
761 Senate. The committee chair may add additional members of the SBA.
- 762 E. Bylaws Committee – The Bylaws Committee shall be composed of one Senate  
763 representative from each class and will be chaired by the Parliamentarian. Its purpose will be  
764 to review the Bylaws and determine if any recommended changes to it are required. The  
765 committee will also review standing rules to determine if any recommendations for additions  
766 or revisions should be made. The committee chair may add additional members of the SBA  
767 subject to prior approval by a majority of either the Executive Committee or the Senate.
- 768 F. Elections Committee – The Elections Committee shall be composed of one Senate  
769 representative from each class and will be chaired by the Secretary. The purpose of the  
770 Elections Committee will be to hold spring elections for the Continuing Classes  
771 representatives and committee members, fall elections to elect new class representatives  
772 and committee members and to fill any vacancies that arise after the spring elections; and to  
773 hold special elections as they are needed. The committee chair may add additional members  
774 of the SBA subject to prior approval by a majority of either the Executive Committee or the  
775 Senate.
- 776 G. Student Activities Committee – The Student Activities Committee shall be composed of one  
777 Senate representative from each class and will be chaired by the Vice President. Its purpose  
778 will be: to coordinate the calendar of activities and ensure that a schedule of events is  
779 maintained on the bulletin board and the VLS web site; to oversee the planning and  
780 execution of all SBA sponsored activities, including periodic opportunities for meetings  
781 among class representatives and their constituents; and to enforce the policy for use of SBA  
782 controlled public bulletin boards. The membership of this committee will be revised as  
783 necessary after each election. The committee chair may add additional members of the SBA.
- 784 H. Athletic/Outdoor Activities Committee – The Athletic/Outdoor Activities Committee will be  
785 composed of the Athletic/Outdoor Activities Commissioner, acting as chairperson, and at  
786 least one Senate representative. Its purpose will be to oversee all equipment inventories and  
787 their use by students, as well as providing recommendations regarding the fitness center.  
788 The committee chair may add additional members of the SBA.
- 789 I. IT Committee – The IT Committee shall be composed of at least three members of the SBA  
790 and will be chaired by the IT Coordinator/Webmaster. Its purpose will be to review the IT  
791 concerns of the SBA and work with the VLS IT Department to maximize IT performance.

## 792 793 794 § 6.4 SBA Special Committees

795  
796 The Senate shall create special committees as needed to address specific needs of the SBA and  
797 its members. Each special committee shall stand until the next Senate takes office or until  
798 dissolved by the current Senate. Appointments to Special Committees may be made by the  
799 Senate when the committee is created or the Senate may delegate to the Executive Committee  
800 or to the President the authority to make such appointments at their discretion.

## 801 802 § 6.5 Committee Member Duties and Responsibilities

803  
804 All elected and appointed committee chairs shall attend at least one meeting a month of the  
805 Senate in order to apprise the SBA of their activities and to learn of the SBA's views, and when  
806 requested by a majority of that body. It is the responsibility of the Chair of each standing and  
807 special committee to make minutes of the meetings (or have someone act as the committee  
808 Secretary for this purpose) and it is the Chairs' responsibility to submit minutes to the Secretary  
809 either by email or delivery at a Senate Meeting (noting at least the attendance, time, and place  
810 and matters discussed and any votes taken or recommendations by consensus). The committee

# BYLAWS of the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School

811 members shall attend all committee meetings unless there is a valid reason not to attend which  
812 should be so reflected in the committee minutes. The committee members shall strive to insure  
813 that the interests of the members of the SBA are properly represented.  
814

## 815 816 **ARTICLE 7. APPROPRIATIONS**

817  
818 The Treasurer will receive Student Membership Dues from the Business Office at the beginning  
819 of the fall semester to be divided into two accounts: seventy percent to the Student Activity Fund  
820 to be distributed to Funds Eligible Student Groups and thirty percent to the General Fund to be  
821 administered by the Senate at its discretion [in the event that the membership dues in § 3.4 are  
822 increased to one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125) or more, the percentages shall be seventy-  
823 five percent to the Student Activity Fund and twenty-five percent to the General Fund]. Fifty  
824 percent of each fund will be budgeted for allocation in the fall semester, with the balance to be  
825 allocated in the spring semester. The Student Activity Fund shall be divided each semester with  
826 forty to sixty percent of that fund as determined in 7.3(B) used to create the SBA Speaker  
827 Program and the remaining percent used to fund other activities of Funds Eligible Student  
828 Groups.  
829

### 830 § 7.1 Finance Committee

831  
832 The Finance Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:  
833

- 834 A. Aid and assist the Treasurer in the preparation of the General Fund and Activity Fund  
835 Budgets for approval by the Senate;
- 836 B. Require all Funds Eligible Student Groups to submit a budget application at the beginning of  
837 each semester according to these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
- 838 C. To convene to review funding requests and to invite group representatives to explain the  
839 levels of funding sought pursuant to these Bylaws and the Standing Rules;
- 840 D. To meet as needed to determine the status of the financial condition of the SBA;
- 841 E. To make recommendations to the Senate on the recognition of Funds Eligible Groups;
- 842 F. To recommend to the Senate particular levels of funding for each Funds Eligible Group; and
- 843 G. To make recommendations to the Senate regarding the Finance section of the Standing  
844 Rules.  
845

### 846 § 7.2 General Fund

- 847  
848 A. The Senate shall approve the General Fund Budget pursuant to these Bylaws and the  
849 Standing Rules
- 850 B. The Senate may decide to fund any activity or purchase that will promote the intellectual,  
851 physical, or social development of the Vermont Law School Community.
- 852 C. The General Fund Budget shall be approved prior to the second regularly scheduled Senate  
853 meeting of each semester.
- 854 D. Any Orientation events funded by the SBA shall be budgeted out of the previous year's  
855 Spring General Fund.  
856

### 857 § 7.3 Student Activity Fund

#### 858 A. Generally

- 859  
860
- 861 1. The Senate shall approve all funding requests pursuant to these Bylaws and the  
862 Standing Rules.
- 863 2. The Senate may decide to fund any activity that will promote the intellectual, physical, or  
864 social development of the Vermont Law School Community and/or the Town of Royalton.
- 865 3. The SBA funds activities of Funds Eligible Student Groups. The SBA does not  
866 necessarily fund groups.

## BYLAWS of the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School

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4. If the Senate attaches any conditions to the allocation of funds, the Finance Committee shall ensure that the group is aware of the conditions and that the conditions are met.
  5. Funds Eligible Student Groups may appeal Finance Committee recommendations to the Senate. The Senate shall act on the appeal in a timely fashion.
  6. The Senate may not consider budget applications submitted after the date of the Finance Committee meeting that is set by the Treasurer to review and recommend budgets based on such applications.
  7. All allocations of SBA monies voted by the Senate shall remain in the treasury until groups receiving such allocation actually incur expenses or until proper documentation is provided showing that funding is needed prior to the actual occurrence of the expense.
  8. In order to be reimbursed, all requests for disbursement and accompanying receipts are due to the Treasurer prior to the last meeting of the Senate at the end of the fall and spring semesters.
  9. Reallocation of funds must receive approval from the Treasurer and/or the Senate as specified in the Standing Rules prior to the expenditure or request for check disbursement . Reallocation after the publication of approved budgets to a newly created budget purpose shall require a super majority yes vote of the Senate.
  10. No Senate has the authority to approve an expenditure of funds that will occur subsequent to the end of its term of office, except as provided for in the Standing Rules.
  11. No Senate has the authority to approve an expenditure of funds that occurred prior to the beginning of its term of office.
  12. The Treasurer pursuant to the Standing Rules shall invest the entire portion of the Student Activity Fund that remains unspent at the end of the academic year.
  13. During April of each year, all Funds Eligible Student Groups shall submit to the Finance Committee a budget report accounting for expenditures during the current year and a preliminary request for funding for the subsequent year.
  14. Prior to the regularly scheduled semester Senate Budget Allocation Meeting, Funds Eligible Student Groups may request money for initial administrative and operating costs. Such requests will be based on actual reasonable costs incurred and will be part of the group's semester request. Such requests shall be limited to \$100.00 per group and require approval by a majority of the Senate.
  15. Each group receiving SBA funds must have a treasurer whose records are subject to review by the SBA Treasurer within ten days of a request for review. All requests for funds will be made by the group's treasurer and funds will be disbursed to the group only through its treasurer.
  16. All groups and their activities using SBA funds must be open to all students and must be prominently advertised.

### B. The SBA Speaker Program

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1. Between forty percent (40%) and sixty percent (60%) of each semester's Student Activity Fund (as determined in the Standing Rules) shall be allocated to the SBA Speaker Program as determined by the Senate in the Standing Rules.
  2. The SBA Speaker Program shall be established and governed by the Senate as detailed in the Standing Rules.

# BYLAWS of the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School

## 914 **ARTICLE 8. ELECTIONS OF THE SENATE**

### 915 § 8.1 Elections Committee

916 The Elections Committee shall have, at a minimum, the following duties and responsibilities:

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- 918
- 919
- 920 A. Conduct all regular elections, special elections, and referenda pursuant to these Bylaws and
- 921 the Standing Rules.
- 922 B. Inform the SBA and the Senate when elections and referenda must occur.
- 923 C. Establish polling places (which may include electronic voting), count votes, and post the
- 924 results pursuant to guidelines established by the Senate in the Standing Rules.
- 925 D. In the event that the Chair of the Elections Committee prefers not to serve during any election
- 926 due to a potential conflict of interest, or to avoid the appearance of impropriety, the chair may
- 927 appoint a temporary replacement chair who can serve only after approval by the Senate.
- 928

### 929 § 8.2 Elections

- 930
- 931 A. Elections for Executive Committee, Board of Trustees Representatives, Law School
- 932 Committee Representatives for the continuing classes, and Town Liaison members shall be
- 933 held by the first Friday in April.
- 934 B. Elections for J.D. Senators from the continuing classes shall be held at the same time as or
- 935 within 10 days of the elections listed in § 8.2(A).
- 936 C. Elections for the Master's Program Senator(s), J.D. Senators from the 1L class, Law School
- 937 Committee Representatives for the 1L class, and any vacancies from elections held pursuant
- 938 to § 8.2(A) and/or (B) shall be elected no later than four full weeks after the start of the Fall
- 939 Semester.
- 940 D. A student may run for two positions concurrently, except that a student may only run for one
- 941 of the following: President, Vice President, Treasurer, or Secretary. Upon election to two
- 942 positions, the student shall choose, be selected for, and sit only in one position. An election
- 943 to fill positions not taken shall be held promptly thereafter. Running concurrently for more
- 944 than one position will only occur under provisions established by the Senate in the Standing
- 945 Rules.
- 946 E. All elections and referendum votes shall be by secret ballot.
- 947 F. SBA members shall be required to sign a voter roll before voting in any election.
- 948 G. Elections shall follow all other guidelines set forth in the Standing Rules.
- 949

### 950 § 8.3 Referendum

- 951
- 952 A. Referenda are governed by § 3.5 (A) of these Bylaws.
- 953 B. Once the Secretary of the SBA has received a petition that contains the valid signatures of
- 954 twenty percent or more current members of the SBA, a vote by general referendum shall be
- 955 held on the issue.
- 956 C. The Secretary shall hold such voting within fourteen (14) days (excluding vacation periods)
- 957 after receipt of the petition and posting of adequate notice.
- 958 D. SBA members shall be required to sign a voter roll before voting in any referendum.
- 959 E. A majority vote on a referendum shall be controlling and conclusive. When in conflict with a
- 960 vote of the Senate, the referendum shall prevail.
- 961 F. Any dispute regarding referendums shall be submitted to the Elections Committee. An
- 962 appeal from the Elections Committee shall go to the Honor Code Committee and be bound
- 963 by its determination.
- 964

### 965 § 8.4 Bylaws Amendments

- 966
- 967 A. Bylaws Amendments are governed by Article 12 of these Bylaws.
- 968 B. Once the Secretary of the SBA has received a petition for amendments to the Bylaws that
- 969 contains the valid signatures of seventy-five or more current members of the SBA OR the

# BYLAWS of the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School

- 970 Senate has approved the amendments by a majority vote, a ratification vote shall be held on  
971 the issue
- 972 C. The Secretary shall hold such voting between fourteen (14) and thirty (30) days (excluding  
973 vacation periods) after receipt of the petition or the majority vote of the Senate.
- 974 D. Adequate notice shall be posted at least one week prior to the vote.
- 975 E. SBA members shall be required to sign a voter roll before voting in any ratification vote.
- 976 F. The quorum requirement for a ratification vote is two-thirds of the current membership of the  
977 SBA. A ratification vote passes with a super majority yes vote.

## 979 § 8.5 Third Year Students and Non-Juris Doctor Program Students

- 980
- 981 A. May not run for any office to become effective after March 1 of that academic year;
- 982 B. May vote in referendums, but may not vote in elections after March 1 of that academic year;  
983 and
- 984 C. Every elected voting member of the Senate shall retain voting rights through the last regular  
985 meeting of the Senate during that academic year.

## 986 § 8.6 Absentee Ballots

987 Absentee ballots shall be available to all currently enrolled students who are not in residence  
988 during the semester in which an election is held. Absentee ballots shall also be available upon  
989 request to the Secretary of the SBA to those students who will be absent from the Law School  
990 campus on the day of elections. Absentee ballots shall be transmitted by e-mail to each eligible  
991 member who makes a timely request. They shall be returned by regular mail or by e-mail to a  
992 special secure mail account, created for the sole purpose of elections, prior to the closing of the  
993 election period. Absentee balloting shall be conducted pursuant to such additional rules and  
994 procedures as provided for in the Standing Rules.

## 995 **ARTICLE 9. HONOR CODE AND CODE OF CONDUCT**

996 These Bylaws incorporate by reference the current versions of the VLS Honor Code and VLS  
997 Code of Conduct which shall be posted on the SBA website and available at the library circulation  
998 desk.

## 1000 **ARTICLE 10. PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

1001 The rules contained in the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall govern  
1002 the Senate and the SBA, so long as they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws or Standing  
1003 Rules adopted by the Senate.

## 1004 **ARTICLE 11. STANDING RULES OF THE SENATE**

### 1005 § 11.1 Generally

1006 The Standing Rules shall be the rules under which the Senate and its Committees shall operate.  
1007 The Standing Rules shall define the rules, guidelines, and procedures for awards, meetings,  
1008 finances, attendance, elections, committees, vacancies, and any other activity of the Senate or  
1009 SBA.

### 1010 § 11.2 Adoption and Amendments

1011 Any member of the Senate may propose additions, changes, and deletions to the Standing Rules  
1012 at a Regular Senate Meeting. A vote on the additions, changes, and/or deletions shall then take  
1013 place between seven and twenty-one days from the date of proposal. Adequate notice of the  
1014 pending vote shall be posted at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the vote. The quorum

# BYLAWS of the Student Bar Association of Vermont Law School

1025 requirement for a vote is two-thirds of the current voting membership of the Senate. Additions,  
1026 changes, and/or deletions shall take effect immediately upon a Super-majority Yes Vote.

1027

## 1028 **ARTICLE 12. BYLAWS AMENDMENTS**

1029

### 1030 § 12.1 Procedure

1031

1032 Any member of the SBA may propose amendments to the Bylaws.

1033

1034 A. Proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing to the Senate at a Regular Senate  
1035 Meeting.

1036

1036 B. In order for proposed amendments to be voted on by the SBA

1037

1. the proposed amendments shall also include a petition containing the valid  
1038 signatures of seventy-five current members of the SBA, OR

1039

2. receive a majority vote of approval by the Senate.

1040

1040 C. Timing of Vote

1041

1. A vote of the SBA shall take place between fourteen and thirty days from the date of  
1042 submission at a Regular Senate Meeting as in 12.1.B above.

1043

2. Adequate notice of the vote shall be posted at least one week prior to the vote.

1044

### 1045 § 12.2 Ratification

1046

1047 Adoption of proposed amendments occurs only by a vote of the current membership of the SBA.

1048

1048 The quorum requirement for a ratification vote is two-thirds of the current membership of the SBA.

1049

1049 Ratification passes with a super majority yes vote.

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## 1052 **ARTICLE 13. EFFECTIVE DATE**

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1054 These Bylaws take effect immediately upon ratification by the SBA and replace all other Constitutions  
1055 and/or Bylaws.

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## 1057 **HISTORY OF BYLAWS**

1058

1059 2002 April 2. Complete Redrafting of Bylaws: passed a unanimous vote of Senate and presented  
1060 to the SBA for ratification vote beginning on April 17, 2002.

1061

1999 Full Update of Bylaws Passed by Student Bar Association vote

1062

1985 Full Update of Bylaws Passed by Student Bar Association vote