

SOUTH CENTRAL LEGISLATION

2004 Provincial Council Meeting

AMENDMENT 1

Submitted By: Beta Kappa Chapter-Brandi Taylor, President, b.taylor@mail.utexas.edu

Summarization of the Proposal/Recommendation:

We recommend changing the Standard Pledge Education Program to include a social event as a national pledging requirement.

Purpose of the Proposal/Recommendation and reason(s) for its submission:

The purpose of our recommendation is to increase the opportunity for pledges to be able to bond on a social level. We feel that this event will also give the brothers another opportunity to observe the pledges and make accurate decisions when deciding if the pledge is a right fit for the fraternity. We have used this criterion as a local chapter requirement many times before and feel that it has greatly enhanced the pledging process. We feel that such an enhancement should be made nationally. A social event allows the pledges to interact in a more laid back atmosphere that allows their personalities to come through. This is important to start the bonds that will carry into their brotherhood and life long relationships.

Recommended implementation date and logic for selecting this date:

We recommend that the implementation begin with the Fall 2004 pledge classes. This will give enough time for the recommendation to be passed and chapters to prepare their pledge program accordingly.

Positive Aspects of implementing Proposal/Recommendation:

This will be a positive addition to our pledge program because of reasons discussed above as well as help intertwine the aspect that Delta Sigma Pi is able to mix business with pleasure.

Negative Aspects of implementing Proposal/Recommendation:

Some could see this as negative if some chapters choose not to properly conduct their socials, but this has been a local chapter requirement option before and those who use it are monitored just as they will be when it is a national requirement.

Provide a brief cost analysis of the Proposal/Recommendations (if applicable):

N/A

AMENDMENT 2

Submitted By: Beta Kappa Chapter-Brandi Taylor, President, b.taylor@mail.utexas.edu

Summarization of the Proposal/Recommendation:

We recommend changing the Standard Pledge Education Program to include the option to have no fewer than five local chapter requirements instead of the current requirement of three.

Purpose of the Proposal/Recommendation and reason(s) for its submission:

The purpose of our recommendation is to increase the opportunity for pledges to plan more events and work together. We would prefer to go back to seven local requirements, but we understand that the last change in the Pledge Program did move two of the optional local requirements to national requirements. Therefore, we are asking for no fewer than five. We feel that these two extra requirements in conjunction with the national requirements will give the brothers more opportunities to observe the pledges and make accurate decisions when deciding if the pledge is a right fit for the fraternity. They will also provide the pledges with more opportunities to prove themselves and allow their true personalities and abilities to shine through. In the past, we have had pledges who are shy and do not show their personalities until later into the process or after they had more events to have more time to get to know and trust their pledge class and the brothers. The purpose of pledging is to find out if the pledge is right for Delta Sigma Pi and if the pledge feels Delta Sigma Pi is right for them. Reducing pledging requirements only limits the chances to fulfill this purpose. Also, we have had seven local chapter requirements previously and even then some brothers felt that our pledging process was not taken as seriously compared to other fraternities both social and professional. We feel that we will be able to bring some credibility back to the process by establishing the two extra requirements into our pledge program.

Recommended implementation date and logic for selecting this date:

We recommend that the implementation begin with the Fall 2004 pledge classes. This will give enough time for the recommendation to be passed and chapters to prepare their pledge program accordingly.

Positive Aspects of implementing Proposal/Recommendation:

This will be a positive addition to our pledge program because of reasons discussed above in our reasoning for the recommendation.

Negative Aspects of implementing Proposal/Recommendation:

Some may find a negative aspect in that we are recommending too many requirements on pledges. However, we find that we are in fact compromising the pledging process when we ask too little of our pledges.

Provide a brief cost analysis of the Proposal/Recommendations (if applicable):

N/A

AMENDMENT 3

Submitted By: Beta Kappa Chapter-Brandi Taylor, b.taylor@mail.utexas.edu

Summarization of the Proposal/Recommendation:

We propose to amend the Bylaws Articles XII, Section 11. We would like this section to read "To ensure against mistake, should twenty percent (20%) of the members present and voting, or five (5), whichever greater, negative votes appear in the ballot box on the name of a prospective pledge, a second ballot shall be immediately taken unless there are forty five percent (45%) or more negative votes." Instead of the way this section currently reads as "To ensure against mistake, should twenty percent (20%) of the members present and voting, or five (5), whichever greater, negative votes appear in the ballot box on the name of a prospective pledge, a second ballot shall be immediately taken."

Purpose of the Proposal/Recommendation and reason(s) for its submission:

The purpose of our proposal is to especially help larger chapters efficiently run voting meetings. There is a lot of excess time and energy wasted when voting on over thirty prospects and depending on the actual number of prospects up to 20 or more will not be accepted. Under the current rules if thirty prospects are voted on and only twelve are accepted, there are as many as forty-eight votes taken in a single meeting. It is our experience that with a large voting chapter these forty-eight votes are time consuming and usually unnecessary when at least ten of them are taken with over fifty percent of the chapter voting negative votes. We understand that the current ruling is in place to protect against mistake and most definitely want to hold ourselves up to a high standard and give everyone an opportunity to be considered and counted fairly, but we feel it unnecessary and inefficient to revote on votes that are clearly not in error.

Recommended implementation date and logic for selecting this date:

We recommend that the implementation begin with the Fall 2005 pledge classes. This will give enough time for the proposal to be considered properly and passed. It will also allow for a possible vote at the 2005 GCC so that a mail in vote is not required as it would be with the implementation to occur with the Fall 2004 classes.

Positive Aspects of implementing Proposal/Recommendation:

This will cut out unnecessary voting and increase our efficiency.

Negative Aspects of implementing Proposal/Recommendation:

We don't find a negative aspect to this proposal. We are proposing that we double check and be thorough with those prospects whose votes are close and a human error could be to blame but are still increasing our efficiency in the long run.

Provide a brief cost analysis of the Proposal/Recommendations (if applicable):

N/A

RITUAL PROPOSAL 1

Submitted By: Amanda Romine, a_romine@hotmail.com

Summarization of the Proposal/Recommendation

Change the wording of the Oath in the Chapter Business Meeting Ritual, p. 16, to agree with the Oath in the Initiation Ritual, p. 54. The wording of the second to last line should be changed from “and will advance,” to “and I will advance,” as it is in the Initiation Ritual.

Purpose of the Proposal/Recommendation and reason(s) for its submission

In the initiation ritual, we ask the neophytes to take an Oath. We then repeat the oath at all chapter business meetings, but the wording is not exactly the same. This should be changed to standardize the Oath in all its written forms.

Recommended implementation date and logic for selecting this date

Implementation date can be no sooner than August 2005, after the issue has been considered at Grand Chapter Congress, and should be changed in the next ritual books that will be published.

Positive aspects of implementing Proposal/Recommendation

It is in the Fraternity’s best interest for the Oath of Initiation to agree with the Oath that is repeated at Chapter Business Meetings.

Negative aspects of implementing Proposal/Recommendation

New ritual books may need to be printed.

Provide a brief cost analysis of the Proposal/Recommendation (if applicable)

The cost of new ritual books cannot be ignored, but if other changes are being made then the cost is alleviated slightly.