

A PETITION BY THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KENTUCKY, CALLING FOR THE IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT LAUREN GOODWIN

WHEREAS: This petition claims that President Goodwin should be impeached on the following grounds in accordance with Article VII, Section One of the Student Government Association's Constitution as approved by the Board of Regents and the student body during the 2019-2020 Lopez-Sanford Administration, and

WHEREAS: Article VII, Section One of the Student Government Association's Constitution states that "Neglected duties subject to impeachment include, but are not limited to, not fulfilling office hours, acquiring three (3) or more unexcused absences in a semester, and not attending retreats or other mandatory events. The SGA advisor shall determine approved absences", and

WHEREAS: Additionally, the Constitution of the Student Government Association states that a petition for impeachment can be brought to the Student Senate against "Any member of the SGA that has repeatedly neglected his or her duties or who has committed any act that has brought discredit to the student body, is subject to impeachment", and

WHEREAS: This petition asserts that President Goodwin has both neglected her duties as President of the Student Government Association and has committed numerous acts that have brought discredit to the student body, and

WHEREAS: Concerning this petition's charges regarding the dereliction of the President's duties, this petition states that there are, but not limited to, two clear examples that outline the severity of the President's dereliction of duty, and

WHEREAS: The first example of the President's dereliction of duty concerns her violation of Article IV, section I, subsection B, point vi which states that the President "shall enforce the provisions of the Constitution, the Standing Rules of Order, mandates, legislation, Bylaws of the Student Senate, decisions of the Judicial Council, and referendum of the student body", and

WHEREAS: Goodwin has violated the aforementioned section of the Constitution by failing to enforce the provisions of the Constitution and mandates, and

WHEREAS: Addressing the President's failure to uphold the provisions of the Constitution, Goodwin herself has violated the Constitution by breaching Article IV, section IV, subsection E, point i, which states that, "Should any vacancies occur in the Student Senate, they are not required to be filled until the total amount of senators falls below twenty-five (25). However, vacancies can be filled at the discretion of the President before the total amount of Senators falls below twenty-five (25)." The breach of the Constitution occurred when President Goodwin denied applicants that were approved by all members of the Interview Committee, of which is also established in the Constitution, from appearing before the Student Senate. This is a clear breach of the

aforementioned passage in the Constitution as the membership of the Student Senate was at twenty-one members when the decision was made, and

WHEREAS: Regarding President Goodwin's failure to uphold mandates of the SGA, Goodwin violated this constitutional duty by breaking Executive Order .002 2020-2021. Specifically, section two which states, "Executive board members will complete office hours as usual, distanced in the physical office space. General body members will complete office hours virtually..." Goodwin was in violation of her own executive order when she frequented general body members, and non-members into the SGA's physical office space, and

WHEREAS: The violation of President Goodwin's own executive order, this petition claims, does multilateral damage. Firstly, it undermines SGA's ability to enforce meaningful executive orders. Secondly, it puts into question the stability of both the Constitution and the Bylaws of the Student Senate, both of which address executive orders. Thirdly, it sets up a horrible precedent for future Presidents concerning executive orders and accountability, and

WHEREAS: This petition also claims that President Goodwin has violated the Constitution by committing acts that have brought discredit to the student body, and

WHEREAS: The acts mentioned in the previous whereas of this petition are numerous, but the example that will be highlighted in this petition concerns the rejection of applicants in the latest round of appointments, and

WHEREAS: President Goodwin denied one applicant from coming before the student body, as mentioned previously in this petition, for reasons that she described at the February 1st meeting of the SGA general body as "personal concerns," which not only puts into question her ability to make objective decisions, but also discredits the student body by denying an applicant due to personal qualms. In taking this course of action, Goodwin placed her "personal concerns" regarding an applicant over filling the Student Senate – which undermines its power and the power of the student body by extension, and

WHEREAS: The concerns raised about the rejected applicant by President Goodwin in front of the body were largely based on anecdotal accounts from outside influences and were not founded on the deliberation of the Interview Committee, nor the questions that they asked and assessed all candidates for appointment on, and

WHEREAS: President Goodwin is given the opportunity to address any concerns she may have as to avoid appointing an unfit or unqualified member of the body during the formation of the interview questions in tandem with the Secretary of Administration. This is outlined in Article IV section IV, subsection F, point ii of the Constitution which states that, "The Secretary of Administration shall collaborate with the President to establish a base set of interview questions that will be used for each interview," and

WHEREAS: This petition states that President Lauren Goodwin should be impeached and removed from her office as President and Student Regent for two charges. The first is a clear dereliction of duty as she failed to enforce provisions in the Constitution by violating the part concerning filling vacancies within the Student Senate and failed to enforce mandates via executive order, and

WHEREAS: The second and final charge this petition presents is that President Goodwin brought discredit to the student body by denying a candidate on “personal concerns” that undermine the power of the Student Senate – and by extension – the student body.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, ON THIS EIGHTH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2021 THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY APPROVES THIS PETITION AND CALLS FOR THE IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT LAUREN GOODWIN FOR NEGLECTING HER DUTIES AND DISCREDITING THE STUDENT BODY.

THIS PAGE SHALL ACT AS A SPACE FOR SENATORS TO SIGN