Congressional Resolution NO. 16-17-36

**Sponsors:** IUSA Oversight and Reform Committee. Filed on 2/14/2017 Considered on 2/14/2017 with a final disposition of (PASS/FAIL) aye: 26 nay: 3 abs: 4

**Resolution to update the Election Code, First Past the Post (FPTP)**

WHEREAS, currently, Section 306 reads:

Section 306: Voting Processes.

The ballot for the IUSA Election shall first identify all eligible tickets and provide a brief self-overview of each ticket’s platforms. This overview will be required to meet standardized word count and formatting requirements per Section 111. The ballot shall include Executive candidates and Congressional candidates. Voters can select up to four (4) congressional seats per Section 301. **Voters can select any number of executive tickets to vote for.** Each candidate shall be listed on the ballot by their first and last name only, unless the Election Commission has approved the use of a preferred name. Each Congressional candidate shall have the option to place their ticket affiliation next to their name. Executive candidates must designate ticket affiliation. Furthermore, no voting process shall be allowed that is contrary to the provisions provided in this Code.

*The highlighted section is the sentence that is under review*

WHEREAS, having a plurality ticket selection complicates the voting process, due to the fact that it adds additional time due to individual click costs and the need to determine a rank for each selection

WHEREAS, by complicating the voting process and making the voting process too long, the voter turnout levels would likely decrease

WHEREAS, FPTP promotes more centralized stances because the ticket must be able to address a wider range of students

WHEREAS, each year, several tickets receive vote deductions due to violations of the election code.

WHEREAS, when applying these deductions, especially for voter fraud, the process would also foster confusion due to the fact that EC (and potentially the Supreme Court) would have to determine the applicable amount to remove from each ticket

WHEREAS, this could result in multiple appeals and delay the transition between administrations

LET IT BE RESOLVED, we amend the election code **Section 306** to read

Section 306: Voting Processes.
The ballot for the IUSA Election shall first identify all eligible tickets and provide a brief self-overview of each ticket’s platform. This overview will be required to meet standardized word count and formatting requirements per Section 111. The ballot shall include Executive candidates and Congressional candidates. Voters can select up to four (4) congressional seats per Section 301. **Voters can select one and only one executive ticket (FPTP) or opt to abstain from the executive election.** Each candidate shall be listed on the ballot by their first and last name only, unless the Election Commission has approved the use
of a preferred name. Each Congressional candidate shall have the option to place their ticket affiliation next to their name. Executive candidates must designate ticket affiliation. Furthermore, no voting process shall be allowed that is contrary to the provisions provided in this Code.

Respectfully Submitted

Dakota Coates
Chair of the Oversight and Reform Committee