

**Proposition:** 12-20/21

**Title:** Minor change to Senate Constitution to clean up procedure on filling vacancies for Senators on leave.

**Date Submitted:** 26 January 2021

**Sponsor(s):** Brown (A&S), more to follow

**Proposed Committee:** Consent Agenda is requested

**Assigned Committee:** : Consent Agenda is requested

**Prior Approvals:** N/A

**Proposal Type** (please check one):

☐ Memorial

☐ Proposition to change policy (please include ARP/RPM reference(s) from <https://arp.nmsu.edu/>)

☐ Proposition for curriculum addition/change (please include all curriculum change forms and signature pages as outlined here: <https://provost.nmsu.edu/forms/>)

☒ Other (please describe below)

This is an internal Senate matter. The proposed changes in the Faculty Senate Constitution will be sent to all faculty for a vote after it is approved by the Senate.

**Proposal:** By this memorial, a change to the Senate Constitution is proposed, with this change then going to the faculty at large for a vote after Senate approval. This change simply cleans up an inconsistency of current language as to how vacancies for Senators on leave are filled.

Current text of Article V, Section 5

- In the case of a leave of absence of a member of the Faculty Senate, the existing senator should appoint a temporary replacement who shall serve until the absent member returns from leave or until the member's term of office has expired, whichever occurs first. The provisions of Article IV, Section.3 shall apply to such election.

Version with markups:

- In the case that a senator should lose eligibility to serve or should resign as senator, the senior senator of the former senator's voting group shall ensure an election of a new senator for the remainder of the term. In the case of a leave of absence of a member of the Faculty Senate- senator, the existing incumbent senator shall should appoint a temporary replacement who shall serve until the end of the academic year, until the absent member returns from leave, or until the member's term of office has expired, whichever occurs first. The provisions of Article IV, Section.3 shall apply to such election.

Proposed text to clean up issues with above text.

- In the case that a senator should lose eligibility to serve or should resign as senator, the senior senator of the former senator's voting group shall ensure an election of a new senator for the remainder of the term. In the case of a leave of absence of a senator, the incumbent senator shall appoint a temporary replacement who shall serve until the end of the academic year, until the absent member returns from leave, or until the member's term of office has expired, whichever comes first.

**Rationale:** The current language notes that the incumbent Senator selects the replacement, then also refers to an election. The proposed text clarifies that the incumbent Senator selects the replacement and deletes reference to an election.

DRAFT