

10 **A SIMPLE RESOLUTION OF THE MARYLAND STUDENT LEGISLATURE CONCERNING**
20 **THE FUNCTIONING OF THE MARYLAND STUDENT LEGISLATURE**

- 30 **WHEREAS:** The Maryland Student Legislature (MSL) was founded as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit
40 organization and continues with that status today; and,
- 50 **WHEREAS:** The MSL, in accordance with Federal, State and other regulations formed a Board of
60 Directors (BOD) to oversee all aspects of the MSL; and,
- 70 **WHEREAS:** As with any organization that requires a BOD, the BOD has ultimate decision making
80 authority over anything that transpires within the organization; and,
- 90 **WHEREAS:** Most successful organizations choose their Directors via an election process of the
100 shareholders, or via appointment from an executive authority; and,
- 110 **WHEREAS:** Currently, the BOD of the MSL serves as the sole body with the responsibility of
120 selecting and removing Directors; and,
- 130 **WHEREAS:** Typically, Boards of Directors make policy decisions and leave the administration of
140 said policy decisions up to an executive officer and his/her subordinates; and,
- 150 **WHEREAS:** According to a national survey conducted by Stanford University, the average length of a
160 term for board members is three years; and,
- 170 **WHEREAS:** According to the MSL BOD by-laws, each Director serves a five-year term; and,
- 180 **WHEREAS:** At the expiration of an MSL Director’s term, a simple-majority vote of the current
190 Directors is all that is required for renewal of directorship; and,
- 200 **WHEREAS:** Currently, any new member of the Board must submit their application to the Board chair
210 and after thirty days of consideration, 75% of the current Directors must vote in the
220 affirmative to confirm a new member of the Board; and,
- 230 **WHEREAS:** Article V, Section 3 of the Board bylaws outlines all of the duties of the President of the
240 organization; and,
- 250 **WHEREAS:** Listed on the MSL website, the current officers include: Douglas Testerman (Chairman
260 of the Board), Michael Berlin (Vice Chairman of the Board), William Troy Simmons
270 (Corporate Treasurer), Gina Eosco (Corporate Secretary), Brooke Barrash (Governor of
280 MSL), Brian Griffiths (Alumni Association President), Susan McConkey (No Position
290 Listed), and Dan Zubairi (No Position Listed); and,
- 300 **WHEREAS:** The Chairman of the Board, Douglas Testerman eavesdropped on an e-mail sent to the
310 MSL State Government regarding a proposed constitutional amendment to have the State
320 Government involved in Director selections, and immediately signaled his intention to
330 keep the amendment from being heard on the floor, thus denying the students of MSL the
340 ability to make their voice heard; and,
- 350 **WHEREAS:** Students should have their voice heard regarding this important subject given the fact that
360 many Board meetings devolve into shouting matches, where much doesn’t get done; one
370 such session involving one Board member running out of the room crying and another
380 involved a two hour debate as to whether Mr. Testerman was even a member; and,
- 390 **WHEREAS:** In this day and age, it is vital for any successful organization to have an up-to-date

400 website and the MSL most certainly does not; and,

410 **WHEREAS:** The MSL Board of Directors continuously denies students the ability to update or create a
420 new website despite multiple attempts by former Governors Gina Eosco, Tim Daly, Katie
430 Nash and current Governor Brooke Barrash; and,

440 **WHEREAS:** For a not-for-profit organization to be recognized as functional, precedence has shown
450 that shareholders must be equally involved in the management and oversight of the
460 organization.

470 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:** That the Students of the MSL urge the MSL Board of
480 Directors to incorporate a confirmation process whereby the State Government of the
490 MSL has veto power over new Board candidates as well as Board membership renewal;
500 and,

510 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Students of the MSL urge any MSL Director, that takes
520 photographs of students during any MSL event, post any and all pictures in a directory
530 available on the MSL website or make them otherwise available to all students who are
540 interested in seeing said photography.

550 **MANDATES:** MSL Board of Directors

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