

1 **Resolution Number:** 405-2021

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3 **Title:** Amendment to the Standing Rules of the House of Delegates, Section 4. Caucuses

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5 **Reference Committee Assignment:** Governance

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7 **Sponsor(s):** 2020-21 Governance Committee

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9 **Financial Impact:** None

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11 **Board of Trustees Comments:** The board recommends a yes vote.

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13 **Reference Committee Comments:** Comments were taken into consideration. The reference
14 committee believes the sentiments offered at the hearings are already captured. Therefore, the
15 reference committee recommends a yes vote.

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17 **Background:** The 2020-21 Governance Committee believes hazing, bullying and other
18 inappropriate and/or intimidating actions or requests should not be tolerated at ASDA meetings
19 or in caucuses. The committee recommends the addition of anti-hazing rules, based on input
20 from ASDA's legal advisors, to prohibit such actions.

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22

23 **RESOLUTION**

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25 **Resolved,** that the Standing Rules of the House of Delegates, Section 4. Caucuses be amended
26 as follows:

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28 Section 4. Caucuses

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30 Caucuses are meetings of groups of delegates to discuss House business.

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32 A. District Caucuses

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34 District caucuses are composed of representatives from the chapters within the district.
35 Members from each district caucus must elect a trustee annually to serve on the Board
36 of Trustees. Caucuses may develop their own caucus rules and conduct any other
37 necessary business.

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39 B. Joint Caucuses

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41 Joint caucuses are composed of representatives from two or more districts as indicated
42 below:

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44 Districts 1, 2 & 3

45 Districts 4 & 5

46 Districts 6 & 7

47 Districts 8 & 9
48 Districts 10 & 11

49
50 Each joint caucus may interview officer candidates, develop their own caucus rules and
51 conduct any other necessary business.

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53 **C. Hazing**

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55 **Hazing is not permitted at ASDA meetings or district events. ASDA defines hazing as ‘any**
56 **action taken or any situation created intentionally that causes embarrassment,**
57 **harassment or ridicule and risks emotional and/or physical harm to members of a group**
58 **or team, whether new or not, regardless of the person’s willingness to participate.’**

59
60 **Activities that are not permitted shall include, but are not limited to, the following:**

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62 **Asking candidates or members of the association to:**

- 63 • **Complete potentially physically taxing tasks (e.g. pushups, dancing or tying**
64 **shoes).**
- 65 • **Answer questions not reflective of the skills necessary to fulfill a national**
66 **leadership position (e.g. sexually suggestive prompts).**
- 67 • **Respond to questions in a manner not befitting a professional (e.g. responding**
68 **in song).**

69
70 **Creating an environment of intimidation for candidates or members of the**
71 **association, which may include:**

- 72 • **Invading personal space**
- 73 • **“Catcalling”**
- 74 • **Mocking candidate responses**
- 75 • **Bullying**

76
77 **Any actions taken or situations created to produce or cause mental or physical**
78 **discomfort, harassment or embarrassment will not be tolerated.**

79
80 **To maintain legal and professional standards, district caucus facilitators (e.g. district**
81 **trustees, national leaders, etc.) shall not conduct nor condone hazing activities and will be**
82 **required to sign an anti-hazing form vowing to not participate in or allow others to**
83 **engage in hazing activities.**

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85 **Action:** The Chair moves 405-2021 with a recommendation of a yes vote.