

IN THE STUDENT COURT OF THE MISSOURI STUDENTS ASSOCIATION OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI – COLUMBIA

Date Submitted 3/20/08

PETITION

The Board of Elections Commissioners, as a result of a variety of incidents including those beyond their control, held an election in which a number of full-time undergraduate students (currently of unknown scale according to the Department of Information Technology on Thursday evening) were not permitted to vote online at <http://vote.missouri.edu>. Upon entering their Pawprint and password, they received the message, "You are not eligible to vote in any active elections." Additionally, 736 students who voted between 6 p.m. and 9:22 p.m. had their votes discounted when it was discovered that the election application lacked directions for voting for more than one candidate. Of these 736 students, 203 did not re-vote after 9:22 p.m., and their participation was not accounted for in the election. As a result of the decision to count only votes that were cast after 9:22 p.m. Monday, the election may be most accurately defined as beginning at this time and ending when the application on <http://vote.missouri.edu> was discontinued at 6 p.m. Wednesday. This window of 44 hours and 38 minutes is less than the 48 hour period mandated by 5.02(A) of the MSA Bylaws. These issues may have the potential to affect the outcome of eight academic college elections. We submit that these incidents may constitute a violation of Article I of the MSA Constitution by denying students the opportunity "to gain the benefits inherent in the organization of a government for the student." and request further investigation for the purpose of finding a fair and equitable solution.

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