



IN FOCUS

SIGMA PHI EPSILON INCLUDES "SEXUAL ORIENTATION" IN BYLAWS

On behalf of the Lambda 10 Project, we applaud the recent decision by Sigma Phi Epsilon to amend its bylaws to add sexual orientation to its non-discrimination statement. We hope such positive action by a leading international fraternity will serve as a standard for the vast majority of fraternities who have not taken this important step to do the same. Please join us in applauding the decision of Sigma Phi Epsilon to include "sexual orientation" in their chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures. The passed amendment is listed below.

[Click here](#) to find a listing of the other inter/national fraternity organizations who have taken steps to address issues of sexual orientation within the college Greek community.

Resolution 16

To Amend the Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures concerning the Non-Discrimination clause of the Grand Chapter

WHEREAS Article 1, Section 1a of the Sigma Phi Epsilon Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures reads, A brother in the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity is a man of good moral character who is eligible to membership therein and, having been elected to membership pursuant to the provisions of the Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures, as well as chapter bylaws, is initiated according to the Ritual of the Fraternity; provided, however, that no man shall be elected to membership who has obtained a high school grade point average less than 2.7 out of a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent), or if the candidate is a continuing student, he must meet the chapter's minimum grade point average standard. Further provided that no man shall be elected to membership who is a member of another general national college social fraternity. Eligibility for membership shall not, in any way, be affected or determined by race, color, religion, age, physical handicap, ethnic background, creed, or national origin.

and **WHEREAS** the Sigma Phi Epsilon Grand Chapter Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures is a living document,

and **WHEREAS** from time to time it is necessary to amend the document to keep pace with current practices,

and **WHEREAS** Sigma Phi Epsilon is an inclusive society of brothers that values differences in people and diversity within our organization, our respective campuses, our communities, and society at large and recognizes that the

different perspectives and contributions anall-inclusive people can make toward improving the brotherhood of thefraternity and humanity,

and **WHEREAS** the Association of Fraternity Advisors, the WesternRegional Greek Council, and other inter-fraternal organizations have stated that discrimination based on sexual orientation is inconsistentwith the principles of Campus Greek Life,

and **WHEREAS** many colleges and universities are requiring their affiliated organizations to adopt new non-discrimination policies as aprerequisite to formal recognition,

now therefore, be it,**RESOLVED**: that the Sigma Phi Epsilon Grand Chapter Bylaws, Article1, Section 1a be amended to read, A brother in the Sigma Phi EpsilonFraternity is a man of good moral character who is eligible to membership therein and, having been elected to membership pursuant to the provisions of the Bylaws and Administrative Policies and Procedures,as well as chapter bylaws, is initiated according to the Ritual of theFraternity; provided, however, that no man shall be elected to membership who has obtained a high school grade point average less than 2.7 out of a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent), or if the candidate is a continuing student, he must meet the chapter's minimum grade pointaverage standard. Further provided that no man shall be elected to membership who is a member of another general national college socialfraternity. Eligibility for membership shall not, in any way, be affected or determined by race, color, religion, age, physical handicap,ethnic background, sexual orientation, creed, or national origin.

Submitted by: Fergus Tuohy, delegate, Louisiana Gamma Chapter