

THE TAU BETA PI ASSOCIATION

**RATIFICATION BALLOT ON CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT
APPROVED BY THE 2009 CONVENTION**

Please see the summary sheet on the "Constitution Amendment Approved by the Convention but Subject to Ratification by the Chapters" for Convention minutes references, and the "Instructions for Ratification Balloting" on the other side of this sheet for explanation of quorum requirements and active status.

Mailed from National Headquarters October 21, 2009

CHAPTER _____

The number of active undergraduate members of this chapter is: _____
The number of active graduate-student members of this chapter is: _____
The number of active alumnus members of this chapter is: _____
Therefore, the total number of active members of this chapter is: _____

This is a correct report of the vote of this chapter on the proposed changes in the Constitution as approved by the 2009 Convention:

1. **Require an Executive Council to take office within 11-14 months after its election.**
Constitution Art. III, Sec. 3 (h) (Convention minutes pages 11, 13, and 14)

Affirmative votes _____

Negative votes _____

Abstentions _____

Absentees _____

Total (must equal number of active members shown above) _____

(Absentees must not exceed 25% of the total for a valid ballot!)

The vote of this Chapter therefore is: Affirmative Negative

(Affirmative votes must be at least three times the sum of Negative votes and Abstentions for an Affirmative Chapter vote!)

PLEASE SEE BACK PAGE FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION!

Signed: _____ Signed: _____ Date: _____
Chapter President Chapter Secretary

**POSTMARK DEADLINE: April 1, 2010 THIS SIGNED BALLOT MUST BE RETURNED TO:
TAU BETA PI P.O. BOX 2697 KNOXVILLE, TN 37901-2697 (FAX: 865/546-4579)
(over)**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RATIFICATION BALLOTING

Your chapter must first meet the quorum requirement specified in Bylaw V, Sec. 5.07, which means that **three-fourths of the active members of the chapter must vote in order to have a valid ballot.** According to an earlier Convention, you may collect the votes of members at a meeting or by mail, telephone, e-mail, face-to-face, or other means. The "active membership" of a chapter is defined in Const. Art. VI, Sec. 1. Your chapter may take action under either this article or its local bylaws to reduce its quorum requirement by declaring members *inactive*.

To declare any member *inactive* you must receive the approval of five-sevenths of your advisory board. Members whom your chapter declares inactive are still members of Tau Beta Pi; they are not counted toward a quorum, but are eligible to be a Fellow or Laureate and to receive all other membership benefits. Members who do not regularly attend meetings generally qualify to be declared *inactive*. A member may be returned to *active* status. Refer to your chapter's bylaws, or call Headquarters should you need any further clarification.

Chapters at **cooperative schools** and chapters with **night-school** members may take advantage of the lower quorum requirements permitted by Bylaw V, Sec. 5.07, upon approval of the Executive Council. Please attach to your ballot a letter with enough data to justify such quorum reduction so that the Council can make an informed decision. Chapters with **inactive members** under Bylaw VI, Sec. 6.05, may omit them in the count of active members.

At a chapter meeting where the three-fourths quorum requirement is satisfied, your chapter will be counted in favor of a proposed Constitution amendment only if **three-fourths** or more of the active members present and entitled to vote (affirmative votes plus negative votes plus abstentions) **cast affirmative** votes. The total number of affirmative votes, negative votes, abstentions, and absentees must equal the total active membership of the chapter as reported at the top of the ballot. Abstentions count as a vote and must be recorded. In all calculations of quorum and three-fourths majority, any fraction must be counted as the next higher whole number.

Example: **Chapter has 10 active members, then:**

8 (not 7) constitute a quorum. (Always round up!)

If all 10 are present,	8 affirmative votes are needed to ratify;
If 9 are present,	7 affirmative votes are needed to ratify; and
If 8 are present,	6 affirmative votes are needed to ratify.

Ask Headquarters if you have any questions regarding a quorum or other aspect of the ballot; don't guess. If you cannot get the necessary quorum, please vote **AND MAIL THE BALLOT ANYWAY**. This is extremely important in case the deadline is extended by the Council. Any extension eliminates your chapter from a Secretary's Commendation. Thanks.

(over)