

STUDENT ASSOCIATION JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Opinion No. 2- F2025

*THE OFFICIAL AND PERTINENT OPINION OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT ASSOCIATION JUDICIAL COUNCIL REGARDING THE QUESTION OF
CONSTITUTIONAL PROCEDURE IN THE IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS OF STUDENT
ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT CAMERON CUMMINGS.*

[September 18, 2025]

Hearing No. 2-F.2025

Argued September 14, 2025-Decided September 18, 2025

CHIEF JUSTICE WILLIAMS delivered the unanimous decision of the Council. In accordance with precedent established by prior Judicial Council practice, those members who declined to take a definitive position on the constitutional question before us have been formally recused. Their abstentions are therefore not included in the final tally of the Council's decision, which reflects only the votes of those members reaching a considered judgment on the matter.

Ruling

*In the question of constitutional procedure in the impeachment proceedings of Student Association President Cameron Cummings, specific to **MSU SA Const. art III, § 6-B** and **MSU SA Bylaws art VIII**; it is the unanimous opinion, and thus the prevailing opinion, of the Mississippi State University Student Association Judicial Council, that the current application of impeachment procedure employed by the Student Association Senate has failed to complete certain requirements outlined in the Student Association Constitution and Bylaws. The Judicial Council finds that the current process is, at its present point, constitutionally deficient. Accordingly, The Mississippi State University Judicial Council rules that any continuation of the impeachment proceedings of Student Association President Cameron Cummings under the existing motion of impeachment is henceforth UNCONSTITUTIONAL.*

It must be emphasized that the Judicial Council will not and cannot pass judgment on the political or substantive merits of an impeachment motion. The Council will not opine on the intent of the Senate in presenting the initial motion of September 2, 2025, nor will it engage in the selection of charges or convictions in any matter of impeachment. Such authority lies solely and exclusively with the Student Association Senate, as enumerated in MSU SA Const. art. III, § 6-B.

The Mississippi State University Student Association Judicial Council hereby orders that all actions taken pursuant to the initial motion of impeachment, submitted on September 2, 2025, are declared null and void. The Council finds that said motion was improperly accepted onto the Senate floor without the constitutionally required majority vote of the Senators present, as outlined in MSU SA Bylaws art VIII, § 1-B. Consequently, all actions conducted by the SA Senate regarding the impeachment proceedings initiated under this motion hold no constitutional effect.

It is the understanding of the Council that these proceedings were modeled on precedents established in prior impeachment proceedings and conversations. Furthermore, it is evident to the Council that the MSU SA Constitution prescribes specific procedural requirements for impeachment that are not fully clarified in the corresponding sections of the MSU SA Bylaws, nor are the Bylaws fully clarified by the Constitution. The Council recognizes these existing inconsistencies between the MSU SA Constitution and the MSU SA Bylaws and will work in collaboration with the Senate Oversight Committee to clarify procedural requirements and ensure their consistent and accurate application in all future impeachment proceedings.

Furthermore, the Council will, in the coming days, release to all parties involved a document clarifying the current procedure for any and all impeachment processes, to ensure that

every member of the Student Association is properly equipped to both respect and receive due process.

Pursuant to the Judicial authority vested in this body under Article IV, § 3-D of the Mississippi State University Student Association Constitution, the Council finds that all actions taken pursuant to the initial motion of impeachment, submitted on September 2, 2025, are declared null and void. Any further action pursued under the original motion is hereby declared UNCONSTITUTIONAL in nature.

Should the SA Senate intend to further pursue the impeachment of President Cummings, it must do so under a new motion of impeachment. Such a motion shall fully comply with all procedural requirements as set forth in the MSU SA Constitution and Bylaws, including, without limitation, securing the constitutionally mandated majority vote to accept the motion and committing to a strict adherence to the process created by applying both the standards of the MSU SA Constitution and the standards of the MSU SA Bylaws in coordination.

It is so ordered.