I. Name

A. The official name of this organization is the University of Connecticut Public Interest Research Group, also known as UConnPIRG.
II. Purpose
   A. The purpose of UConnPIRG is to advance a public interest agenda and give students the skills and opportunities to practice effective citizenship. On campus and in the community, on local, state, national and international issues, we investigate social problems, come up with practical solutions, convince the media and public to pay attention, and get decision-makers to act.

III. Mission Statement
   A. The mission of UConnPIRG is to empower, activate, inspire, and serve all students on campus. We are a student-directed, student-funded advocacy group that has a 40-year track record of organizing to tackle profound issues that matter to students. Our chapter has an extensive history training students to tackle complex social issues, including climate change, food insecurity and homelessness, college affordability, and voting rights. We provide trainings, resources, and opportunities for passionate students to identify issues within their communities and work together to address them. Keeping with that tradition of student power, UConnPIRG is an independent Tier-3 organization, run by students with the support of professional staff.

IV. Membership
   A. General organization membership can be broken into three categories:
      1. CORE Member
         a) Any undergraduate student at the University of Connecticut Storrs campus is considered a CORE member after she/he has attended one complete CORE meeting in a given semester. Membership is retained from that point until until the end of the first CORE meeting of the subsequent semester.
         b) All Exec Board members and Campaign Coordinators shall be considered CORE Members for the duration of their tenure in said positions
      2. Campaign Intern
         a) Interns are participating in the UConnPIRG Internship program. They are active members of the chapter and their campaigns
      3. Campaign Volunteer
         a) Volunteers are any member who chooses to participate in any UConnPIRG event. They represent the organization during these events and their membership ends after the event unless they attend CORE and become CORE members.
   B. Expulsion of Members
      1. If a member commits any of the following violations, they are subject to expulsion from the organization:
         a) Violating the Student Code of Conduct
b) Misrepresenting the organization and its views to the public
c) Representing personal views to the public at UConnPIRG events or while representing UConnPIRG
d) Any violation that is not previously mentioned shall be left to the judgement of the Executive Board.

2. When a complaint is brought to the Executive Board, the person accused shall have one week to prepare a defense. The Executive Board shall evaluate the complaint and hear the accused’s defense. The Executive Board will then render judgment by a majority vote to expel or not.

3. Results may be appealed, by either party, to the Core at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

4. Results of vote shall be recorded in the official minutes

V. Quorum

A. Quorum for weekly CORE meetings shall be established by at least five voting members being present, at least two of whom must be campus officers.

VI. Executive Board Officers

A. The following positions shall be elected by the CORE and maintain its responsibilities as the governing body of the organization known as the Executive Board:
   1. Chair
   2. Vice Chair
   3. Treasurer
   4. Secretary

B. Eligibility
   1. a. In order to be nominated for these positions, a person must be a voting member of CORE, and fulfill all requirements therein, be in good academic and behavioral standing with the university, and must not have waived the UConnPIRG fee on their fee bill the semester the election is being held.

C. Officers may not hold more than one Officer position at any time.

D. Officer positions are held for one academic year, pending resignation, or impeachment, or inability to meet requirements of the role.

E. All officers are responsible for leading by example and setting a high standard for involvement, action, and responsibility.

F. The four officers shall have the authority to convene a cabinet in accordance with the UConnPIRG By-Laws

VII. Elections

A. Elections for Officer positions are to be held at a CORE meeting within the last six weeks of the academic school year.

B. Elections for Officer positions are to be held once every academic year excluding special elections.
C. Election Procedure:
   1. Officer positions will be nominated, discussed, and voted on in the order of:
      a) Chair
      b) Vice Chair
      c) Treasurer
      d) Secretary

D. Elections will be done by the following process, and in accordance with the UConnPIRG By-Laws:
   1. Nominations
   2. Speeches
   3. Discussion
   4. Voting
   5. Tally and announcement of winner

VIII. Resignations
   A. All officers and board representatives may resign at any time during the academic year.
   B. The resigning officer or board representative must present his or her name, position, and reason for resignation to CORE at a weekly CORE meeting. This may be done in writing or over electronic mail.
   C. Resignations shall be in effect immediately upon the conclusion of the CORE meeting at which the resignation is announced.

IX. Impeachment of Officers
   A. Grounds for Impeachment
      1. Failure of an officer to attend three consecutive or five total CORE meetings per semester.
      2. Failure of an officer to hold the interests of the CORE and the organization as a whole in the highest priority.
      3. Continual misuse or misrepresentation of the organization by an officer.
      4. Grounds for impeachment are not limited to the above-mentioned circumstances.
   B. Impeachment Procedures
      1. An impeachment proposal may be submitted to CORE by any voting member.
      2. Impeachment proposals must be presented to CORE with an explanation and grounds.
      3. Time for discussion of the proposal must be allotted at the CORE meeting at which it was presented.
      4. The officer or board representative in question must be given time to respond to the impeachment proposal.
5. A committee of three UConnPIRG voting members will be formed to investigate the submitted impeachment proposal.
   a) The first member of the committee shall be selected by the voting member bringing forward the impeachment proposal, other than him/herself.
   b) The second member shall be selected by the officer or board member proposed for impeachment other than him/herself.
   c) The third member shall be one non-biased party selected by the present voting members of CORE.
   d) This committee shall investigate the impeachment proposal and submit their recommendation to the CORE within two weeks of the proposal.
   e) Recommendations must consist of a decision regarding impeachment or non-impeachment, followed by a detailed explanation of the committee’s findings.

6. A 2/3 vote of voting members present must be reached to enact an impeachment

7. If an officer or board representative is impeached, he or she will be immediately removed from office.

8. Candidates that have been impeached within one year of an election are not eligible to run for the same position.

X. Vacancies
   A. If a position becomes vacant either through resignation or impeachment, the remaining officers will decide whether or not to hold a special election immediately (which would occur at the following week’s CORE meeting), or to appoint an interim to serve until the next regular election time.
   B. Special elections will follow the same voting procedure as a regular election.
   C. Interim
      1. In the event that an officer position is vacant, that officer shall be succeeded in the interim by an appointed member of the CORE, as determined by the Executive Board.

XI. Advisor Appointments
   A. The organization shall maintain a university advisor, to be approved at the start of each year through a simple majority vote of voting members at a weekly CORE meeting within the first month of school.

XII. Budget Procedure
   A. The annual budget must be approved at least once a semester and must be distributed to all voting members attending the CORE meeting.
B. The budget must be amended and reapproved whenever the approved budget is exceeded, new expenditures are added, or when expenditures are no longer pursued.

XIII. Decision-Making

A. All votes require a simple majority for passage, unless otherwise noted by this constitution or the By-Laws.
B. Voting will be conducted in a public manner, unless otherwise directed by the constitution or By-Laws or by a 2/3 vote of CORE members to conduct a secret ballot.
C. Records of all CORE votes must be kept in the minutes.

XIV. Amendment Procedure

A. Any amendments to the UConnPIRG Constitution or Bylaws must be introduced at the weekly CORE meeting one week before it may be voted on.
B. Copies of the amendment must be distributed to all members in attendance at CORE for review.
C. Time for discussion must be allotted before any motions to vote on the introduced amendment.
D. A two-thirds vote must be obtained to pass the introduced amendment.

XV. Enabling Clause

A. This Constitution shall go into effect on November 16th, 2020 upon approval of two-thirds vote in favor by all present voting members. This Constitution shall replace and render null any and all previous constitutions, procedures, practices and precedents for this organization.