

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

84th SESSION
2016-2017

S. B. 84-

An Act To Place a Question on the Ballot for the 2016
General Election

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

DECEMBER 13, 2016

SUBMITTED BY SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE JACKSON TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT
OPERATIONS

A BILL

An Act To Place a Question on the Ballot for the 2016
General Election

Whereas, the Constitution of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada currently states that a student must be enrolled in at least seven undergraduate credits in order to be eligible to run or hold office in the Associated Students of the University of Nevada;

Whereas, the seven credit policy is outdated and does not reflect current University of Nevada academic initiatives;

Whereas, the “30 to Complete” Initiative encourages students to take 30 credits per year in order to graduate within four years;

Whereas, students who take thirty or more credits a year are more likely to graduate;

Whereas, since the Fall of 2012 only one Student Officer who was not of Senior Status was enrolled in seven or less undergraduate credits;

Whereas, during the Fall 2016 semester, the average number of undergraduate credits in which a Student Officer was enrolled in was 14.9;

Whereas, other student leaders, such as student summer orientation guides, are encouraged to take 15 credits per semester;

Whereas, the University’s “30 to Complete” Initiative encourages students to take 30 credits per year in order to graduate within four years;

Whereas, students who take thirty or more credits a semester are more likely to graduate in general and have higher grade point averages;

Whereas, 96 percent of employees of the Student Services Division are enrolled in twelve or more undergraduate credits;

Whereas, students who hold an office in the Associated Student of the University of Nevada should serve as representative role models of academic effort for their constituents since they are elected by their respective colleges and not at large;

Whereas, during the Fall 2016 semester, 86.5 percent of undergraduate students took twelve or more credits per semester;

Whereas, students who hold an office in the Associated Students of the University of Nevada should be held to a high academic standard;

Whereas, placing a question on the ballot would allow undergraduate students to decide what credit load would be most appropriate for the students that represent them;

Be it enacted by the Senate of the Associated Students, that pursuant to Article I, Section 1, Subsection B2 of the Constitution of the Associated Students, a question seeking approval of voters shall appear on the ballot for the 2017 General Election as follows:

“Shall the Senate of the Associated Students increase the constitutionally mandated credit load for an officer from seven to twelve credits unless they are a graduating senior?”

Be it further enacted by the Senate of the Associated Students, that pursuant to passage of the ballot question by the student body, Article I, Section 1, Subsection B2, will read as follows:

“Be enrolled in at least twelve undergraduate NSHE credits, with at least nine at the University of Nevada, Reno, unless the student is in their graduating academic year.”