

# Committee on Public Affairs

Senate of the Associated Students 86th Session  
Agenda for Tuesday, February 12th, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Joe Crowley Student Union Room 422

**1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER\***

**2. ROLL CALL\***

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT\***

Items heard under public comment may be for items either on or off the agenda. Action may not be taken on items raised under public comment. The Chair may elect to take public comment on action items on this agenda. The Chair may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak

**4. MINUTES**

a. **Minutes from the Meeting on October 19, 2018**

a. The Committee will discuss and offer any opposition to the minutes in the form of a corrective amendment. The Committee will then proceed to vote on approving the draft minutes as record.

b. **Minutes from the Meeting on November 2, 2018**

a. The Committee will discuss and offer any opposition to the minutes in the form of a corrective amendment. The Committee will then proceed to vote on approving the draft minutes as record.

**5. REPORTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS**

The Director of Legislative Affairs will provide a report regarding upcoming projects, legislation, etc.

**6. OLD BUSINESS**

There is no old business to be discussed.



Posted at the ASUN Offices in the Joe Crowley Student Union, Frandsen Humanities Building, the Pennington Student Achievement Center, Mathewson- IGT Knowledge Center, and online at [www.nevadaasun.com](http://www.nevadaasun.com).

If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Senator Alvarez at [senatoralvarez@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatoralvarez@asun.unr.edu).

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. S. Res. 86- A Resolution in Support of Expanding the Silver State Opportunity Grant to Increase Higher Education Affordability**

The Committee will discuss and consider favorably recommending the legislation.

**b. S. Res. 86- A Resolution in Support of Creating a State-Funded Grant Program for University Students**

The Committee will discuss and consider favorably recommending the legislation.

**c. New Project Proposals**

The Committee will review the project proposals by President Jackson.

**d. Parking Services Update**

The Committee will review the proposals made by Parking and Transportation Services regarding the proposed updates for Pack Transit.

**e. Senator Updates**

Each Senator will give a report on their actions since the last meeting and what they have been working on.

## **8. PUBLIC COMMENT\***

Items heard under public comment may be for items either on or off the agenda. Action may not be taken on items raised under public comment. The Chair may elect to take public comment on action items on this agenda. The Chair may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

## **10. NOTES.**

Unless otherwise marked by an asterisk, all items are action items upon which the Senate may take action. ASUN supports providing equal access to all programs for people with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate physically handicapped persons desiring to attend the meeting. Please call the Speaker of the ASUN at (775) 784-6589 in advance so that arrangements may be conveniently made.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

86<sup>th</sup> SESSION  
2018-2019

**S. Res. 86-**

**A Resolution in Support Expanding the Silver State Opportunity Grant to Increase Higher Education Affordability**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

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FEBRUARY 12, 2019

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR AHMED AND SENATOR AZIZ TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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**A Resolution**

**In Support of Expanding the Silver State Opportunity Grant to Four Year Universities**

1     *Whereas*, the current price of education at public institutions has risen 34% from 2005-06 to  
2     2015-16 (U.S. Dept. of Education, *Digest of Education Statistics*, 2018)  
3     *Whereas*, Nevada is ranked 44th in the nation for overall college participation rates for students  
4     from low income families in 2012;  
5     *Whereas* effective affordable education policies would benefit nontraditional students, as Nevada  
6     ranks third lowest in the nation for 2-year college participation rates for students from low  
7     income families at just 6.4% (“College Affordability and Completion.” U.S. Department of  
8     Education, 30 Aug. 2018);

1       *Whereas*, the 2018 Campus-Wide Civic Engagement Survey shows that 22% of students who  
2 surveyed are facing food and housing insecurity, making the pursuit of their education even  
3 more expensive;

4       *Whereas*, the Silver State Opportunity Grant (SSOG), currently requires a student be enrolled in  
5 community college or state college;

6       *Whereas*, students currently receiving the SSOG must be enrolled in at least 15 credit hours per  
7 semester, be college ready based on placement or completion of entry college-level mathematics  
8 and English, be classified as a Nevada resident, meet institutional Title IV financial aid,  
9 complete the FAFSA and have an Expected Family Contribution (EFC) of 85,000 or less;

10       *Whereas*, the Committee to Conduct a Study Concerning the Cost and Affordability of Higher  
11 Education proposed changing the requirements of the SSOG from enrollment in 15 credit  
12 hours each semester to 30 credits over Summer, Fall, and Spring semesters combined per year;

13       *Whereas*, a 30 credit load total over the Summer, Fall, and Spring Semesters instead of a 15 credit  
14 load during each the Fall and Spring semesters is consistent with the credit requirement for a  
15 four year degree;

16       *Be it resolved that*, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada supports the expansion of  
17 the SSOG criteria to allow 30 credits per school year as investigated by the Committee to  
18 Conduct a Study Concerning the Cost and Affordability of Higher Education;

19       *Be it further resolved that*, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada strongly urge all  
20 elected officials within the State of Nevada to explore other scholarships, grants, and other  
21 policies that can make higher education more affordable;

22       *Be it further resolved that*, a copy of this resolution be sent to all members of the Nevada  
23 Legislature's 80th Session, all members of the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of  
24 Regents, Governor Sisolak, and President Marc Johnson.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

86<sup>th</sup> SESSION  
2018-2019

**S. Res. 86-**

**A Resolution in Support of Creating a State-Funded Grant Program for University Students**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

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FEBRUARY 12, 2019

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR AHMED AND SENATOR AZIZ TO THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

---

**A Resolution**

**In Support of Creating a State-Funded Grant Program for University Students**

1     *Whereas*, the current price of education at public institutions has risen 34% from 2005-06 to  
2     2015-16 (U.S. Dept. of Education, *Digest of Education Statistics*, 2018)

3     *Whereas*, making education more affordable would dramatically affect enrollment rates for all  
4     students;

5     *Whereas* effective affordable education policies would benefit nontraditional students, as Nevada  
6     ranks third lowest in the nation for 2-year college participation rates for students from low  
7     income families at just 6.4% (“College Affordability and Completion.” U.S. Department of  
8     Education, 30 Aug. 2018);

1       *Whereas*, the 2018 Campus-Wide Civic Engagement Survey shows that 22% of students who  
2       surveyed are facing food and housing insecurity, making the pursuit of their education even  
3       more expensive;

4       *Whereas*, a proposal by the Committee to Conduct a Study Concerning the Cost and  
5       Affordability of Higher Education supports establishing a separate, state-funded grant program  
6       for qualified students enrolled in four-year universities within NSHE with a similar structure  
7       and qualifications as the SSOG Program;

8       *Whereas*, the establishment of a program similar to the SSOG Program at four year universities  
9       would offer additional paths to the affordability of higher education for university students,  
10      especially of low income status, as Nevada was ranked 44th in the nation for overall college  
11      participation rates for students from low income families in 2012;

12      *Be it resolved that*, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada supports the creation of a  
13      state-funded grant program for university students by the Committee to Conduct a Study  
14      Concerning the Cost and Affordability of Higher Education;

15      *Be it further resolved that*, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada strongly urge all  
16      elected officials within the State of Nevada to explore other scholarships, grants, and other  
17      policies that can make higher education more affordable;

18      *Be it further resolved that*, a copy of this resolution be sent to all members of the Nevada  
19      Legislature's 80th Session, all members of the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of  
20      Regents, Governor Sisolak, and President Marc Johnson.