

# Committee on University Affairs

Senate of the Associated Students 87th Session  
Agenda for Friday, December 6, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.  
Presidents Conference Room, 3rd Floor JCSU

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

Call Meeting to Order must be listed by Secretaries

2. **ROLL CALL\***

Roll Call must be listed by Secretaries

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**

There are no minutes to be heard at this time.

5. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **Fall Liaison Positions**

The Committee on University Affairs will give updates on their liaison positions, both administrative and student groups.

1. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. **S.R. 87 A Resolution in Support of the Residence Hall Association Expanding Provisions for Menstrual Hygiene Products**

The Committee will be considering favorably recommending the legislation.

b. **S.R. 87 A Resolution in Support of Implementing A Water Bottle Refill Station for Wolf Pack Tower**

The Committee will be considering favorably recommending the legislation.



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 Rogers at [senatorrogers@asun.unr.edu](mailto:senatorrogers@asun.unr.edu).

7. **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.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

9. **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]

87<sup>th</sup> SESSION  
2019-2020

**S. Res. 87-**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE RESIDENCE HALL ASSOCIATION  
EXPANDING PROVISIONS FOR MENSTRUAL HYGIENE PRODUCTS**

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IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

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DECEMBER 6, 2019

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR MURPHY ON BEHALF OF INTERN OSTER TO THE COMMITTEE ON  
UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS

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**A Resolution  
In Support of the Residence Hall Association (RHA) Expanding  
Provisions for Menstrual Hygiene Products**

1       *Whereas*, the term “menstrual hygiene products” is defined as sanitary napkins and tampons;

2       *Whereas*, the University of Miami Law Review states “Like toilet paper, menstrual hygiene  
3 products, such as tampons and pads, are necessities for managing natural and unavoidable bodily  
4 functions.”<sup>1</sup>;

5       *Whereas*, the Residence Hall Association’s goal is to ensure “safety and comfort that will help  
6 you [the student] be successful living on campus”<sup>2</sup>;

<sup>1</sup> Elizabeth Montano in “*The Bring Your Own Tampon Policy: Why Menstrual Hygiene Products Should Be Provided for Free in Restrooms*”, University of Miami Law Review

<sup>2</sup> The University of Nevada Residential Life, Housing & Food Service webpage, subsection About Us

1       *Whereas*, currently the Residence Hall Association provides toilet paper, cleaning supplies, and  
2 condoms at the front desk of each residence hall;

3       *Whereas*, the Association of the Students of the University of Nevada allocated funding for a  
4 pilot program, providing free menstrual hygiene products in the Joe Crowley Student Union;

5       *Whereas*, the Joe Crowley Student Union tampon and sanitary napkin dispensers on each floor  
6 were refilled with 334 tampons and 286 sanitary napkins between April 15<sup>th</sup> and May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 in the  
7 last few months of the Spring 2019 semester. Additionally, between May 22<sup>nd</sup> and August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
8 the Joe Crowley Student Union tampon and sanitary napkin dispensers on each floor were refilled  
9 with 369 tampons and 408 sanitary napkins, enclosing the 2019 summer semester;

10       *Whereas*, this data shows that the menstrual hygiene products in the Joe Crowley Student Union  
11 are being used responsibly and that there is an expressed need for them;

12       *Whereas*, this resolution is a continuation of state efforts to expand availability of menstrual  
13 hygiene products. As Senate Bill No. 415 asked whether “the Sales and Use Tax Act of 1955 should  
14 be amended to provide an exemption from the tax for feminine hygiene products”<sup>3</sup> in 2017. The 79<sup>th</sup>  
15 Session of the Nevada State Assembly and Senate both passed this legislation, consequently enacted  
16 January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019;

17       *Whereas*, female identifying students living in the residence halls acknowledge the importance of  
18 reproductive health and hygiene, as a first year female student living in the Nevada Living Learning  
19 Community states, “I think it is good to have free condoms, it’s important, but it is furthering the  
20 idea that male identifying students are more important than female identifying students and their  
21 sexual endeavors are more important than female health, and their reproductive health is more  
22 important than our reproductive health,” thus showing student support for free menstrual hygiene  
23 products in the residence halls;

24       *Whereas*, funding for this expansion will be provided by the Residence Hall Association;

<sup>3</sup> Nevada Senate Bill Number 415 of the 79<sup>th</sup> Session

1        *Be it resolved that*, the Association of the Students of the University of Nevada supports the  
2 expansion of provisions for menstrual hygiene products within the Residence Hall Association;

3        *Be it further resolved that*, this resolution be sent to the Vice President of Student Services Shannon  
4 Ellis, the Manager of Housing Business Operations Lynda Dorset, the Director of Residential Life  
5 Jerome Maese, the Manager of Facilities Vincent Keller, and the Vice President for Internal Affairs  
6 Kayla Snowden.

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[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

87<sup>th</sup> SESSION

2019-2020

**S. Res. 87-**

**A Resolution in Support of Implementing a  
Water Bottle Refill Station for Wolf Pack  
Tower**

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In the Senate of the Associated Students

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November, 27, 2019

Submitted by Senator Ahmed on behalf of Intern Leslie-Rivas to the Committee on University Affairs

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**A Resolution in Support of Adding a Water Bottle Refill Station to Wolf Pack  
Tower**

*Whereas*, one of ASUN's legislative priorities for the 87<sup>th</sup> session is to focus on sustainability and the environment;

*Whereas*, The University has a vested interest in the future sustainability of its campus and a responsibility to educate students on sustainable practices;

*Whereas*, in 2015 34,500 tons of plastic were generated while only 3,140 tons were recycled;<sup>1</sup>

*Whereas*, over 91% of all plastic bottles are not recycled, plastic bottles also take over 400 years to recycle;<sup>2</sup>

*Whereas*, It is estimated 8300 million metric tons of virgin plastic have been produced and 79% of it is accumulated in landfills or the natural environment;<sup>3</sup>

*Whereas*, 4.8–12.7 million metric tons of plastic waste was dumped into the ocean in 2010 because of insufficient plastic waste management;<sup>4</sup>

*Whereas*, UNEP estimated that the natural capital cost of plastic in the consumer goods sector was 75 billion USD per year;<sup>5</sup>

*Whereas*, a 2014 study from the University of Iowa determined that 51% of students in their dataset recycle “as much as possible,” while only 9% said they don’t recycle at all;<sup>6</sup>

*Whereas*, 50% of the students at Villanova University in Pennsylvania “would switch to using only reusable water bottles” if there was a water bottle refill station within convenience;<sup>7</sup>

*Whereas*, the University of California System endorsed a goal of “zero waste by 2020,” leading to diversion rates of plastics to landfills as high as 82% at the Irvine campus;<sup>8</sup>

*Whereas*, The students of Wolf Pack Tower’s nearest water bottle refill station is over 1 mile away, and water bottle refill stations can reduce plastic use in the tower significantly and will save students transportation cost;

*Whereas*, every resident hall on campus has a water bottle refill station or a location nearby that will allow them to fill a bottle. The residents of wolfpack tower must leave the tower to retrieve filtered water, purchase a water filter, or purchase cases of water;

<sup>1</sup><https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/10/9/3074/htm>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2017/07/plastic-produced-recycling-waste-ocean-trash-debris-environment/>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28776036>

<sup>4</sup><https://science.sciencemag.org/CONTENT/347/6223/768.abstract>

<sup>5</sup><https://www.unenvironment.org/news-and-stories/press-release/plastic-waste-causes-financial-damage-us13-billion-marine-ecosystems>

<sup>6</sup><http://scholarworks.uni.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1001&context=etd>

<sup>7</sup><https://www1.villanova.edu/content/dam/villanova/sustainability/Student%20Research/HydrationStation2013.pdf>

<sup>8</sup><https://www.ucop.edu/sustainability/policy-areas/waste-reduction-and-recycling/index.html>

*Whereas*, Wolf Pack Tower also lacks the resources to allow students to recycle plastic water bottles and other waste produced by the absence of a water bottle refill station, leading to an environmentally unsustainable residence hall;

*Whereas*, placing a water bottle refill station in Wolf Pack Tower will lead to less waste and the wellness of students while reducing plastic waste and emissions caused by the transportation of water and production of plastic;

*Be it resolved that*, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada support the creation of a water refill station on the third floor of the Wolf Pack tower to provide access to clean water for over 1,300 residents and promote sustainability on campus;

*Be it further resolved that*, A Resolution in Support of Adding a Water Bottle Refill Station to Wolf Pack Tower resolution be sent to the Director of Sustainability, Director Green, President of RHA Serena Phen, and Facilities & Services;

<sup>1</sup><https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/10/9/3074/htm>

<sup>2</sup><https://www.nationalgeographic.com/news/2017/07/plastic-produced-recycling-waste-ocean-trash-debris-environment/>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/28776036>

<sup>4</sup><https://science.sciencemag.org/CONTENT/347/6223/768.abstract>

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