



Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada

87th Session, 2019-2020

A BILL TO CLEARLY ESTABLISH THE DUTY OF SENATE MEETING ATTENDANCE

Bill Number: 15

Authored By: Senator Westerman

Sponsored By: The Committee on Oversight

Whereas, Rules of the Senate, Rule 1, states that, “Senate shall be on Wednesdays no earlier than 5:30 p.m., unless the Senate orders otherwise;”

Whereas, the Statutes of the Associated Students, Title I, Chapter 101, Section 03, b. states that senators’ duties are, “[to] attend the convening of the Senate and its committees to which the Senator has been assigned;”

Whereas, Rule II: Membership of the Senate, within the Rules of the Senate states, “No Senator shall be absent from the service of Senate without leave;”

Whereas, the duty of Senators to regularly attend Senate and Committee meetings can be stated more clearly in the Statutes of the Associated Students;

Whereas, by amending the duties of Senators to explicitly state the requirements of Senate, this will ensure that the expectations are transparent for all to see, prior to making a commitment to campaign for a Senate seat;

Whereas, it is essential that all Senators are able to be present at Senate meetings. Senatorial absences result in:

- Disproportionate representation and voting power
- Forfeiture of student voice
- Inability of a Senator to vote

- Inability of a Senator to be a part of discussion on voting and non-voting matters

Whereas, the Senate Rules containing the weekly day and time of Senate meetings for the session and can be amended in the future through a Senate Binding Resolution, if the Senate body agrees to these changes;

Whereas, these changes do not inhibit the Speaker's ability to excuse or assign points for temporary absences;

Be it enacted, that the Statutes of the Associated Students, Title I, Chapter 101, Section 03, B, 3, be amended to reflect the amendments in Addendum A

Adopted in Senate on November 20th, 2019

Attest:

Savannah Hughes, Speaker of the Senate

Anthony Martinez, President of the Associated Students

I certify that this Act originated in the Senate.

Frida Urena, Secretary of the Senate

Addendum A

b) DUTIES:

The Senator is in the prime position to communicate between students and heads of colleges. The duties of the Senator include, but are not limited to:

- 1) Host four office hours within a two-week period
- 2) Regularly attend the entirety of the convening of the Senate and its committees to which the Senator has been assigned. Inability to attend the entirety of Senate meetings on a weekly basis will result in disqualification from the Office of Senator. In the instance of disqualification, a Senator shall resign from Office.
- 3) Report during committee meetings to which the senator is assigned with respect to the Senators activities as the previous meeting, whenever the chair of the committee requests.
- 4) Mentor and educate Legislative Intern(s) that may be assigned to them in concurrence with the standards proposed by the Speaker Pro Tempore and approved by the Senate body for that session.
- 5) Regularly attend meetings of the Student Advisory Board of the college which the officers are representing or take initiative regarding an inactive or nonexistent advisory board