

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

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

S. Res. 87-  
A Resolution in Support of Allocating  
Funds for the New Budget Increase of  
Fiscal Year 2021

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IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

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MARCH 7, 2020

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR DOYLE AND SENATOR MURPHY AND SPONSORED BY PRESIDENT  
MARTINEZ TO THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT

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**A Resolution  
in Support of Allocating Funds for the New Budget Increase of Fiscal  
Year 2021**

1       *Whereas*, in December of 2019, the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Board of  
2 Regents approved a \$1.10 per credit hour fee increase for the Associated Students of the University  
3 of Nevada (ASUN), raising the total to \$6.10 per credit hour paid by every undergraduate student;

4       *Whereas*, the new fee will increase the ASUN budget by approximately \$500,000.00 for the 88<sup>th</sup>  
5 Session of the Associated Students;

6       *Whereas*, the 88<sup>th</sup> Session of the Association has to approve the new budget at the start of their  
7 term; however, after a year in office, the current 87<sup>th</sup> Session has the knowledge and experience on  
8 where to allocate the new funds;

1        *Whereas*, the proposed allocations for the 88<sup>th</sup> Session’s budget should be based off percentages  
2 in order to maintain the proper ratio of funds regardless of the actual amount received from the fee  
3 increase, as it is contingent on undergraduate student enrollment;

4        *Whereas*, the memo from President Martinez provides suggestions for the new budget increase  
5 for the following departments: Clubs and Organizations, Programming, Diversity and Inclusion, and  
6 Legislative Affairs;

7        *Whereas*, other areas within the Association require funding and should be considered a priority  
8 when creating the new budget for Fiscal Year 2021, including: Wage Increases for ASUN officers,  
9 Milton D. Glick Academic Initiatives/Scholarships, Sustainability and Wellness Initiatives, Public  
10 Relations, Pack Provisions, Campus Escort, and rebuilding the Capitol Account;

11        *Be it resolved*, the 87<sup>th</sup> Session of the Association supports the proposed budget allocations  
12 outlined in the memorandum written by current ASUN President, Anthony Martinez;

13        Be it further resolved, the 87<sup>th</sup> Session of the Association supports the prioritization of funds  
14 for Wage Increases for ASUN officers, Milton D. Glick Academic Initiatives/Scholarships,  
15 Sustainability and Wellness Initiatives, Public Relations, Pack Provisions, Campus Escort, and the  
16 rebuilding of the Capitol Account;

17        *Be it further resolved*, this resolution be sent to the Speaker of the 88<sup>th</sup> Session of the Senate, the  
18 88<sup>th</sup> President of the Association, the Chairperson of the 88<sup>th</sup> Session of the Senate for the  
19 Committee on Budget and Finance, and the Director of the Center for Student Engagement, Sandra  
20 Rodriguez.

## Memorandum

FROM: Anthony Martinez, ASUN President  
 TO: 87th Senate of the Associated Students  
 CC: Incoming 88th Session of the Senate and Executive Board  
 DATE: March 6th, 2020  
 RE: ASUN Funding Priorities and Initiatives

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Associated Students of the University of Nevada of 2020-2021,

I hope this memorandum reaches you well and I appreciate your hard work and dedication to the Associated Students of the University of Nevada. Outlined below is the proposed financial priorities for the upcoming 88th Session of the Association in light of the upcoming fee increase recently passed by the Nevada State Higher Education Board of Regents. In the interest of transparency and accountability, this memorandum is paired with a resolution from the 87th Session of the Senate in order to inform the new session of what we, as the previous session, believe the increase of funding should be allocated towards:

### **Diversity & Inclusion**

According to the Campus Climate Survey published in July of 2019, only 71% of the Campus felt comfortable or very comfortable at the University. According to the same survey, students who identified as a person of color responded to feeling less comfortable on campus compared to their white student counterparts; queer identifying students responded feeling less comfortable than their heterosexual identifying student counterparts.<sup>1</sup> Currently, the Department of Diversity and Inclusion is allocated less in student wages than other departments and a lack of funding for operations which directly impacts the performance and productivity of the Department. In order to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion on campus and in the Reno-Sparks Community, it is important that we provide additional funding to ensure the success of the Department of Diversity and Inclusion. The proposed funding for the Department of Diversity and Inclusion is 6% of the fee increase.

### **Clubs & Organizations**

Clubs and Organizations are essential to the college experience and have been linked to increasing retention and graduation rates at Higher Education institutions.<sup>2</sup> The cost of club funding continues to increase as more clubs are recognized and apply for funding.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.unr.edu/main/pdfs/verified-accessible/divisions-offices/president/truth/climate-study-final-report.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.heath.gwu.edu/campus-life-joining-clubs-and-organizations>

Throughout the past sessions, clubs have experienced more club funding cuts. In order to combat this issue, the following increase is proposed for the Department of Clubs and Organizations: 24% of the new fee increase.

### **Programming**

As Programming continues to try to host more events and update the current traditions of our University. The cost of materials, artists, and necessities for events increases. In order to make our students become more involved and have a memorable college experience, it is essential that we can continue to produce quality events and memories.<sup>3</sup> Being involved on campus, including attending events, has been linked to campus retention rates, feeling comfortable on campus, and promotes a sense of belonging on campus. The following budget for Event Programming is proposed in order to continue bringing these goals to fruition: 16% of the new fee increase.

### **Legislative Affairs**

With the upcoming Legislative Session of the Nevada Legislature, it is important that the Association lobbies on behalf of students regarding initiatives, including but not limited to, affordable housing, education, and safety. In order to show the legislature that we as students are not only involved in our community but also need to have a say in the projects that directly effect our education, it is important that we have a full functioning department dedicated to lobbying efforts and civic education. The proposed funding for the Department of Legislative Affairs is 1.5% of the fee increase.

### **Priorities**

The following areas are departments and services that the 87<sup>th</sup> Session believes require more funding in order to fulfill their missions:

- |  |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Wage Increases for ASUN officers                  | 4. Public Relations               |
| 2. Milton D. Glick Academic Initiatives/Scholarships | 5. Pack Provisions                |
| 3. Sustainability and Wellness Initiatives           | 6. Campus Escort                  |
|  | 7. Rebuilding the Capitol Account |

<sup>3</sup> <https://education.stateuniversity.com/pages/1855/College-Extracurricular-Activities.html>