

88th Session of the Senate of the Associated Students

Agenda for Wednesday, October 7th, 2020 at 5:30 P.M.

Zoom Meeting: Email Hope Cronan at senatesecretary@asun.unr.edu for details

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER***
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE***
3. **ROLL CALL***
4. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES**
5. **PUBLIC COMMENT***

Due to Governor Sisolak's executive orders, attendance at public meetings is limited.

Members of the public may participate in the meeting without being physically present by submitting public comment via email to Hope Cronan at senatesecretary@asun.unr.edu or by providing comment during our weekly Zoom meetings. Please email Hope for the meeting details through the email listed above.

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 Speaker may elect to take public comment on action items on this agenda. The Speaker may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak.

- a. Introduction from Marc Johnson, President of the University of Nevada

6. **REPORT OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES***

The Speaker shall recognize the chairperson of each standing committee, in alphabetical order, and then each special committee, in alphabetical order, to report for no longer than five minutes on the committee's activities since the previous meeting. The Speaker Pro Tempore and Parliamentarian will also give reports.

- a. Chair, Committee on Academics and Student Affairs--Senator Yang
- b. Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance--Senator Huber
- c. Chair, Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement—Senator Taylor
- d. Chair, Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion--Senator Ribeiro
- e. Chair, Committee on Government Operations--Senator Supple
- f. Chair, Committee on the Safety, Sustainability, and Wellness--Senator Luers
- g. Speaker Pro-Tempore--Senator Supple
- h. Parliamentarian--Senator Harvey
- i. Chair, Committee on Oversight--Speaker Murphy

**POSTED ON OR BEFORE 9:00 a.m.
ON THE THIRD WORKING DAY BEFORE THE MEETING**

Posted online at www.nevadaasun.com

If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact
Keegan Murphy at Speaker@asun.unr.edu or Hope Cronan at Senatesecretary@asun.unr.edu.



7. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS*

The Speaker shall recognize in turn senators requesting the floor for a period not to exceed two minutes. The total time for Comments and Announcements before the first reading of legislation shall not exceed fifteen minutes.

8. VETO MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Senate may reconsider acts vetoed by the ASUN President if they are returned by the President with his objections.

There are no veto messages at this time.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

The Speaker shall sequentially proceed through such acts of legislation that have been previously been placed on the consent agenda. Such acts shall be considered adopted by consent, unless a single senator rises in objection thereto. All acts so objected are immediately placed on the end of the agenda for second reading.

There was no legislation filed for the Consent Agenda.

10. FIRST READING OF LEGISLATION

The following bills and resolutions will receive their first reading and may be considered under item 14 of this agenda:

- a. S.R. 88 – A Resolution in Support of Recognizing Jewish Holidays
- b. S. Res. 88 – A Resolution in Support of Election Days as an NSHE Holiday

11. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK LEGISLATION

A senator may move that legislation under item 14 of this agenda be considered at this meeting. Such a motion shall only be in order provided that a one-day notice has been given to the speaker. The motion shall be decided without debate and shall require the consent of a two-thirds majority of the senate.

- b. S. Res. 88 – A Resolution in Support of Election Days as an NSHE Holiday

12. REFERRALS TO COMMITTEE

The Speaker shall refer all legislation read the first time and not fast tracked to committee.

There is no legislation to be considered for referral at this time.

13. SECOND READING OF LEGISLATION

The following bills and resolutions will receive their second reading and may be considered:

- a. S.Res. 88 – A Resolution in Support of Recognizing Jewish Holidays
- b. S. Res. 88 – A Resolution in Support of Election Days as an NSHE Holiday

14. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

a. Senator Reports

The Senate will share progress they have made in ASUN-related activities that they have been working on.

b. Legislation Tracker Update

The Senators will update the Speaker and the Senate on the legislation they are working on.

c. Senate Committee Changes and Additions

The Senate may make changes to committee assignments

15. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS*

The Speaker shall recognize in turn Senators requesting the floor for a period not to exceed two minutes.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT*

The Speaker may elect to take public comment on items on or off this agenda. The Speaker may impose reasonable limits on the length members of the public may speak.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Notes:

Unless otherwise marked by an asterisk, all agenda items are action items upon which the Senate may take action. Action items may be taken out of the order to be presented at the discretion of the Chair. ASUN supports providing equal access to all programs for people with disabilities. Reasonable efforts will be made to provide accommodations to people with disabilities attending the meeting. Please email the Senate Secretary at SenateSecretary@asun.unr.edu as soon as possible to arrange for appropriate accommodation.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

88th SESSION
2020-2021

S. R. 88-
A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF
RECOGNIZING JEWISH HOLIDAYS

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

SEPTEMBER 29TH, 2020

SUBMITTED BY SENATORS SUPPLE, RIBIERO, AND TAYLOR TO THE COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY,
EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

A Resolution in Support of Recognizing Jewish Holidays

1 *Whereas*, Senate Reslution 87-121, A Resolution Against Anti-semitism on Campus and in
2 Nevada, calls for action to be taken to protect the Jewish population¹;

3 *Whereas*, important Christian and Catholic holidays are recognized by the University of
4 Nevada, Reno and some are granted time off for students and staff²;

5 *Whereas*, important Jewish holidays are not recognized by the University of Nevada, Reno;

6 *Whereas*, the Nevada System of Higher education has a policy that instructors must allow
7 students time off to observe religious holidays but must be submitted in writing³;

¹ http://de5u0yfu98nbk.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/28122029/87-121_S.Res_AResolutionAgainstAntiSemitismOnCampusAndInNevada.pdf

² <https://www.unr.edu/provost/faculty-affairs/instructional-resources/syllabus>

³ <https://www.unr.edu/administrative-manual/3000-3999-students/3020-class-absence-policy>

1 *Whereas*, instructors may not be accommodating with assignments and due dates although
2 time off is allowed to observe a religious holiday;

3 *Whereas*, the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) believes that in order to facilitate the creation
4 of a respectful and inclusive school or workplace, “dillifent efforts should be made to accommodate
5 observance of the High Holidays and other religious practices”⁴;

6 *Whereas*, the United States Bill of Rights’ first amendment, through the Free Exercise Clause,
7 allows for the freedom to practice religion;

8 *Whereas*, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlaws discrimination on the basis of
9 religion;⁵

10 *Whereas*, the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 prohibits “any agency, department
11 or official of the United States or any State from substantially burdening a person’s exercise of
12 religion[...].”⁶;

13 *Whereas*, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states that all humans are granted the
14 right to practice religion⁷;

15 *Whereas*, Jewish students at the University of Nevada, Reno face anti-semitism more than on
16 other university campuses around the United States⁸;

17 *Whereas*, Jewish students on campus may not feel safe disclosing their religious practices to
18 faculty or staff in order to receive a day off of school to observe a religious holiday- especially if the
19 instructor may not accommodate assignments, tests, etc.;

⁴ <https://www.adl.org/education/resources/tools-and-strategies/school-workplace-accommodations-for-jewish-high-holidays>

⁵ <https://www.eeoc.gov/statutes/title-vii-civil-rights-act-1964>

⁶ <https://www.congress.gov/bill/103rd-congress/house-bill/1308>

⁷ <https://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>

⁸ <http://nevadasagebrush.com/blog/2019/05/07/unr-named-in-top-neo-nazi-incidents/>

1 *Whereas*, the Supreme Court in 2003 did not meet because the Supreme Court was meant to
2 commence on the date of Yom Kippur and set a precedent to not meet on Yom Kippur⁹;

3 *Whereas*, acknowledging Jewish holidays on campus would show University support for
4 Jewish students;

5 *Whereas*, instructors at all NSHE institutions should be accommodating to the religious
6 practices of their students whose holidays are not accommodated in the NSHE calendar;

7 *Be it Resolved*, the Nevada System of Higher Education include Jewish holidays on its
8 calendars;

9 *Be it further resolved*, the Nevada System of High Education discuss allowing time off to
10 celebrate Yom Kippur and the first two days of Sukkot;

11 *Be it further resolved*, the Nevada System of Higher Education and its institutions discuss a new system
12 of allowing time off for all holidays in respect to all religious and cultural practices for students,
13 faculty, and staff;

14 *Be it further resolved*, this resolution be sent to the President of the University of Nevada,
15 Reno, Brian Sandoval, Chair of the NSHE Board of Regents, Mark Doubrava, Director of Hillel of
16 Northern Nevada, Addy Garfinkel-Berry, Chair of NSHE Board of Regents Cultural Diversity
17 Committee, Laura Perkins.

⁹ <https://www.jta.org/2003/09/05/archive/in-deference-to-jewish-justices-supreme-court-to-delay-opening>



From: Zane Taylor, College of Liberal Arts

TO: Speaker Murphy

Date: September 29, 2020

RE: October 7, 2020

Speaker Murphy,

Due to the pressing time sensitivity of the following resolution and at the advice of President of the Associated Students, Dominique Hall, I am requesting the **S.R 88- A Resolution in Support of Election Days as an NSHE Holiday** is fast tracked through committee and to the Senate table for review.

Respectfully,

Zane Taylor

Chair for the Committee on Democratic Civic Engagment

Senate of the Associated Students

Associated Students of the University of Nevada

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

88th SESSION
2020-2021

S. Res. 88-

A Resolution in Support of Election Days as an NSHE Holiday

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR TAYLOR TO THE COMMITTEE ON DEMOCRATIC CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

A Resolution

In Support of Election Days as an NSHE Holiday

1 *Whereas*, the current NSHE Calendar does not currently recognize Election Days as a holiday
2 and a day off from school for students, staff and faculty;

3 *Whereas*, voter turnout for the University of Nevada, Reno students was about 17% in 2014, and
4 45% in 2018, showing students are actively becoming more engaged in elections¹;

5 *Whereas*, during the Nevada 2020 Primary Election, poll times extended up to 5 or more hours,
6 with reduced polling locations due to the COVID-19 Pandemic²;

¹ [https:// www.unr.edu/nevada-today/news/2019/increased-student-voter-turnout](https://www.unr.edu/nevada-today/news/2019/increased-student-voter-turnout)

² <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.usnews.com/news/best-states/nevada/articles/2020-06-10/long-lines-at-few-polling-places-mark-nevada-primary-voting%3fcontext=amp>

1 *Whereas*, the Washoe County School District counts Election Day as a Professional
2 Development Day, closing all schools and offices, allowing employees and eligible students to vote³;

3 *Whereas*, institutions such as Clemson University⁴, The University of Montana⁵ and the
4 University of South Carolina⁶ have adopted similar policies to allow students, faculty and staff time
5 to vote;

6 *Whereas*, students at the University of Nevada, Reno, while asked the question “How would
7 having Election Day off of school benefit you?” responded as, “I’d be able to help/accompany my
8 non-English speaking eligible family members [to] vote”;

9 *Whereas*, another student responded to the above question with, “I would be able to vote and
10 not have to worry about waiting in lines that might interfere with my classes”;

11 *Whereas*, one student expressed in response to the aforementioned question, “I wouldn’t have to
12 choose between my GPA and being a good citizen” through exercising their civic duty to vote;

13 *Be it resolved*, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada are in support of a change in
14 the Nevada System of High Education calendar reflecting Election Days as a holiday without classes
15 in session and paid time off for faculty, to allow ample time for students, staff and faculty to vote

16 *Be it further resolved*, that this resolution, upon passage, be sent to the following:

- 17 • President of the University of Nevada Reno, Brian Sandoval
18 • Provost Kevin Carman
19 • NSA Student Leaders, Dominique Hall (ASUN), Joshua Padilla (CSUN), Karli
20 McFarling-Kelly (CSN), Melanie Dodson (GBC SGA), Alyssa Fromelius (TMCC
21 SGA), Sidath Kapukotuwa (UNLV GPSA), Will Carrasco (UNR GSA), Gabrielle Clark
22 (ASWN), Suman Randhawa (NSSA)

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<https://www.washoeschools.net/site/default.aspx?PageType=3&ModuleInstanceID=28443&ViewID=C9E0416E-F0E7-4626-AA7B-C14D59F72F85&RenderLoc=0&FlexDataID=31871&PageID=12858&Comments=true>

⁴ <https://www.clemson.edu/registrar/academic-calendars/calendars.tml?year=2018&semester=fall>

⁵ <https://www.umt.edu/provost/academiccalendar/>

⁶ https://sc.edu/about/offices_and_divisions/registrar/academic_calendars/2018-2019_calendar.php

- 1 • Mark W. Doubrava. M.D. Chair for the NSHE Board of Regents
- 2 • NSHE Regent Jason Geddes, Ph.D. District 11
- 3 • NSHE Regent Rick Trachok, District 10