

Committee on Government Operations

Senate of the Associated Students 88th Session
Agenda for Wednesday, February 3rd, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

Zoom Meeting: Email Victoria Supple at speakerprotempore@asun.unr.edu for more information

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. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

- a. There are no minutes to be approved at this time.

5. OLD BUSINESS

There is no old business at this time.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. S.B. 88- A Bill to Establish EDPASS

The committee will discuss and consider favorably recommending the legislation.

b. S.B. 88- An Act to Set the Minimum Grade Point Average to Run and Hold Office to Standard Academic Progress

The committee will discuss and consider favorably recommending the legislation.

c. S.B. 88- An Act to Amend Title V of the ASUN Constitution

The committee will discuss and consider favorably recommending the legislation.

d. S.B. 88- An Act to Amend the ASUN Constitution for Appointed Senators to be Recalled

The committee will discuss and consider favorably recommending the legislation.

e. S.B. 88- An Act to Allow Students with Multiple Majors to Vote in Their Respective Colleges in ASUN Elections

The committee will discuss and consider favorably recommending the legislation.

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.



Posted online at www.nevadaasun.com.

If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact Senator Victoria Supple at speakerprotempore@asun.unr.edu

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

88th SESSION
2020-2021

S. B. 88-
A Bill to Establish EDPASS

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

NOVEMBER 3RD, 2020

SUBMITTED BY SENATORS LUERS TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

A Bill to Establish EDPASS

1 *Whereas*, EDPASS is a partnership between the Regional Transportation Commission (RTC)
2 and higher education institutions to provide discounted public transportation to higher education
3 students;

4 *Whereas*, public transportation is defined as a system of buses, trains, or subways, that are
5 available to the general public, may require a fare, and run at scheduled times.”¹;

6 *Whereas*, The Regional Transportation Commission (RTC) of Washoe County’s mission is to
7 provide “quality transportation systems... that meet the community’s present and future needs.”²;

8 *Whereas*, many college towns have incorporated EDPASS transportation programs, either
9 university-run or in partnership with a local transportation service, in which they provide all students
10 with access to the transportation system at a very low cost;

1 *Whereas*, institutions such as Northwestern University³ , University of Utah⁴ , UC Davis⁵,
2 Washington State University⁶, and others provide local bus services to students free of charge⁷;

3 *Whereas*, RTC Washoe began piloting a EDPASS transportation program with UNR on July
4 1, 2019;

5 *Whereas*, this pilot program, which provides all UNR undergraduate students with access to
6 the entire RTC Washoe bus system, has been funded by a public grant received by RTC for the first
7 year until comprehensive data and a source of student funding;

8 *Whereas*, among universities with EDPASS transit programs, “student transit ridership
9 increased from 35% to 200%, and a corresponding decrease in auto usage that ranged from 20% to
10 70% in the first year of the program.”⁸;

11 *Whereas*, RTC ridership among undergraduate students at UNR has gone up 130% since the
12 start of the pilot program on July 1st;

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/policy/hst/hi5/publictransportation/index.html>

² <https://www.rtcwashoe.com/about/>

³ <https://www.northwestern.edu/offcampus/resources/getting-around/public-train-bus-transportation/index.html>

⁴ <https://utahglobal.utah.edu/salt-lake-city-living/travel-and-transportation/>

⁵ <https://www.ucdavis.edu/campus-life/explore-campus/transportation/>

⁷ <https://wsu.edu/life/transportation/>

⁸ <http://nap.edu/25052>

1 *Whereas*, not only does EDPASS increase ridership, it also increases environmental
2 sustainability and safety;

3 *Whereas*, according to a 2014 city-wide greenhouse gas inventory in partnership with the
4 university, transportation accounted for 30% of climate-related emissions, 83% coming from vehicle
5 use⁹;

6 *Whereas*, for every passenger mile traveled, public transportation produces 95% less carbon
7 monoxide, 92% less volatile organic compounds, and 50% less carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxides¹⁰;

8 *Whereas* public transportation is overall a relatively safe and secure mode of transport with
9 about a tenth of the traffic casualty rate and lower overall crime rates than automobile travel¹¹;

10 *Whereas*, according to No Walls 2025 on breaking down the accessible wall, we must, “Work
11 with the Reno Transportation Commission to ensure the Virginia Street Rapid Transit Expansion
12 project is a success,” “Create alternative transportation options for students to and from campus,”
13 and “Encourage and incentivize students to use alternative transportation options”¹²;

14 *Whereas*, RTC is also planning to build a new bus station on the intersection of E Eighth St
15 and N Virginia St;

16 *Whereas*, RTC is also conducting a transportation survey of the Gateway District to improve
17 their services around the university¹³;

18 *Whereas*, EDPASS programs are meant to benefit local transportation services rather than
19 compete with them, improving the local transportation system is beneficial to the student body.

20 *Whereas*, the 2019 Campus Climate Survey indicated that nearly 50% of respondents have a
21 commute time of ten minutes or longer to the university¹⁴;

⁹ <https://www.reno.gov/community/sustainability/climate-energy>

¹⁰ <https://www.cdc.gov/policy/hst/hi5/publictransportation/index.html>

¹¹ <https://www.vtpi.org/safer.pdf>

¹² <http://de5u0yfu98nbk.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/02142829/No-Walls-2025-AStudentVisOnForTheUniversityOfNevadaReno1.pdf>

¹³ <https://www.rtcwashoe.com/mpo-corridor-plan/rtc-university-area-transportation-study/>

¹⁴ <https://www.unr.edu/main/pdfs/verified-accessible/divisions-offices/president/truth/climate-study-final-report.pdf>

1 *Whereas*, the EDPASS system would provide an alternative mode of transportation for
2 students who normally would not be able to commute to campus freely and independently;

3 *Whereas*, for future years, EDPASS will require a small amount of funding from the
4 university with a subsidy from RTC;

5 *Whereas*, a simple \$4 fee to undergraduate students would provide free transportation to any
6 student for the semester;

7 *Be it enacted by the Senate of the Associated Students*, that a question seeking approval of voters shall
8 appear on the ballot for the 2021 General Election as follows:

- 9 • “Shall the students of UNR add a \$4 per semester fee to pay for the EDPASS
10 system?”;

11 *Be it further enacted that*, pursuant to the passage of the ballot question by the student body, the
12 fee will be brought to the Board of Regents for consideration at their December meeting.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

88th SESSION
2020-2021

S. B. 88-
An Act to Set the Minimum Grade
Point Average to Run and Hold
Office to Standard Academic
Progress

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

JANUARY 18TH, 2021

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR LUERS TO THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

An Act to Set the Minimum Grade Point Average to Run and Hold Office to
Standard Academic Progress

1 Whereas, grade point average is defined as “the average obtained by dividing the total number
2 of grade points earned by the total number of credits attempted”¹;

3 Whereas, the current Grade Point Average (GPA) is “2.75” according to the Associated
4 Students of the University of Nevada, Reno;

5 Whereas, within the Constitution it states you must “maintain a minimum 2.75 cumulative grade
6 point average”²;

1 Whereas, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas grade point average for appointed and elected
2 officials is 2.5 which is stated in their Constitution³;

3 Whereas, the University of Berkeley, California eligibility for membership within their
4 Association is just being a person who is enrolled as a student for with fall or spring semester⁴;

5 Whereas, the University of Davis, California states in their constitution that their undergraduate
6 members must be in good academic standing based on Grade Point Average to be eligible to hold
7 office in ASUCD Senate⁵;

8 Whereas, according to the University of Davis, California registrar office, good academic
9 standing is 2.0 and above⁶;

10 *Whereas*, the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly affected student circumstances regarding
11 academics and overall grades;

12 *Whereas*, all NSHE institutions re-instated their Spring 2020 S/U grading policy⁷;

13 *Whereas*, ASUN should also attempt to accommodate the many students who are struggling to
14 learn online during the pandemic;

15 *Be it enacted by the Senate of the Associated Students*, that a question seeking approval of voters shall
16 appear on the ballot for the 2021 General Election as follows:

17 • “Shall the minimum cumulative grade point average qualification to hold office be
18 changed in the ASUN Constitution to require all members of the government of the
19 association, at the time of their election or appointment and throughout their term,
20 to maintain "Satisfactory Academic Progress" (SAP)?”;

21 *Be it further enacted that*, pursuant to the passage of the ballot question by the student body, the
22 Constitution of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada, Reno be updated to replace the
23 grade point average from 2.75 to Standard Academic Progress as reflected in Addendum A.

ARTICLE I—THE ASSOCIATION**SECTION 1.**

This Association shall be known as the Associated Students of the University of Nevada, Reno, hereinafter referred to as the ASUN, the Associated Students, or the Association.

MEMBERSHIP — Membership in the Association is automatic for students registered for at least one undergraduate credit.

QUALIFICATIONS TO HOLD OFFICE — All members of the government of the Association, at the time of their election or appointment and throughout their terms, shall meet the general qualifications as follows:

- (1) Maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average.
- (2) Be enrolled in at least seven undergraduate credits.

ELECTION AND TERMS — A general election shall be held on the Wednesday and Thursday on or preceding March 15 and those elected shall take office on the Wednesday closest to April 15.

(d) LIMITATION ON HOLDING OFFICE — No person shall hold more than one office, elected or appointed, at any one time

(e) COMPENSATION — The elected members of this government shall receive a compensation to be set by law. Any increase in compensation will take effect after the next intervening general election, which shall be subject to approval by a majority vote of the students voting in the election on that question.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

88th SESSION
2020-2021

S. B. 88-

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE V OF THE ASUN CONSTITUTION

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

JANUARY 27TH, 2021

SUBMITTED BY SENATORS LAMBERT, STANFILL, AND SUPPLE TO THE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

A BILL

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE V OF THE ASUN CONSTITUTION

1 *Whereas*, the Constitution of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada V.II.b.1,
2 reads, “PROCEDURES --- (1) A petition of half of the number of students who voted in the
3 previous election of the officer or senator to be recalled is required to order a recall election.”¹;

4 *Whereas*, the ASUN elections recall process calls for all voters who voted in the previous
5 ASUN election to vote in the event of a recall election;

6 *Whereas*, for all of the voters who graduated after the election and are no longer students at
7 the University of Nevada Reno are not able to vote;

¹ http://de5u0yfu98nbk.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/14090844/asun_constitution_11.5.18.pdf

1 *Whereas*, students who graduated are no longer students of the Associated Students of the
2 University of Nevada and are not able to vote in a recall election;

3 *Whereas*, all the incoming freshmen and transfer students at the University of Nevada, Reno
4 were not students at the time of the initial ASUN election making them ineligible to vote in the recall
5 election;

6 *Whereas*, incoming freshmen and transfer students are students of the Associated Students of
7 the University of Nevada are not able to vote in a recall election;

8 *Whereas*, the duties of an elected senate are to represent all student with majors in their
9 college;

10 *Whereas*, the duties of the vice president and the president of the association represent all
11 undergraduate students at the University of Nevada, Reno;

12 *Whereas*, the recall process does not include all undergraduate students of the University of
13 Nevada, Reno;

14 *Be it enacted*, pursuant to Article V, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Associated Students,
15 upon the passage of this bill, a question seeking approval of voters appear on the ballot for the 2021
16 General Election as follows: “Shall the Associated Students amend the Constitution to change who
17 qualifies to sign a recall, initiative, and referendum petition to be any undergraduate student who is
18 represented by the officer or senator in question?”.

Article V

SECTION 2. RECALL ELECTIONS

(a) All elected members of this government are subject to recall from office by election, but no person shall be recalled from office without first serving two months.

(b) PROCEDURES —

~~(1) A petition of half of the number of students who voted in the previous election of the officer or senator to be recalled is required to order a recall election.~~

(1) A petition to order a recall election can be signed by any of the constituents of the officer or senator at the time of the recall. The number of signatures required is half the number of students who voted in the previous election of the officer or senator to order a recall election.

(2) If the petition qualifies, a special election shall be held within three weeks to recall the officer or senator.

(3) The concurrence of a majority of the students voting in the election shall be required to recall an officer or senator.

(4) A vacancy created by recall shall be filled by special election within two weeks of the recall.

SECTION 3. INITIATIVE

(a) Any item of enactment may be put to a vote of the students by petition. No measure repealing a prior action shall be done by initiative.

(b) PROCEDURES —

~~(1) A petition of half of the number of students who voted in the previous election of the officer or senator to be recalled is required to order a recall election.~~

(1) A petition for initiative can be signed by any undergraduate students at the time of the initiative. To place an item of enactment on the ballot, the petition must be signed by half of the number of the students who turned out to the polls at the general election.

(2) A measure that qualifies shall be placed before the students in the next general election.

(3) A majority of the students voting on the question shall be required for its adoption.

SECTION 4. REFERENDA

(a) A referendum shall be used to repeal any item of enactment of the Senate.

(b) PROCEDURES —

~~(1) A petition of half of the number of students who voted in the previous election of the officer or senator to be recalled is required to order a recall election.~~

(1) A petition for referendum can be signed by any undergraduate students at the time of the referendum. To place an item of enactment on the ballot, the petition must be signed by half of the number of the students who turned out to the polls at the general election.

(2) A measure that qualifies shall be placed before the students in the next general election.

(3) A majority of the students voting on the question shall be required

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

88th SESSION
2020-2021

S. B. 88-

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ASUN CONSTITUTION FOR APPOINTED SENATORS TO BE RECALLED
IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

JANUARY 27TH, 2021

SUBMITTED BY SENATORS LAMBERT, STANFILL, AND SUPPLE TO THE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

A BILL

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ASUN CONSTITUTION FOR APPOINTED SENATORS TO BE RECALLED

1 *Whereas*, the Constitution of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada V.II.b.1,
2 reads, “PROCEDURES --- (1) A petition of half of the number of students who voted in the
3 previous election of the officer or senator to be recalled is required to order a recall election.”²;

4 *Whereas*, appointed senators are not elected through ASUN elections;

5 *Whereas*, appointed senators fill a vacant seat in the Senate of the Associated Students if
6 someone does not run for the position in ASUN Elections or if a senator resigns from their position;

7 *Whereas*, there is no number of constituents that voted for the appointed senator from
8 ASUN Elections;

² http://de5u0yfu98nbk.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/14090844/asun_constitution_11.5.18.pdf

1 *Whereas*, from the ASUN Elections, there is a number of students who voted in that college;

2 *Whereas*, while the constituents were not able to vote for that senator, they were still able to
3 vote for the appointed senator, they are still being represented by the appointed senator and they did
4 engage in that democratic process;

5 *Whereas*, appointed senators serve the constituents of their college without being voted in;

6 *Whereas*, the constituents of an appointed senator must be able to recall any representative
7 even if they were not the ones to directly vote them into that position;

8 *Whereas*, the number of signatures on a recall petition for an appointed senator should be
9 half of the number of students in that senator’s college who voted in the most recent ASUN
10 Election;

11 *Be it enacted*, pursuant to Article V, Section 2 of the Constitution of the Associated Students,
12 upon the passage of this bill, a question seeking approval of voters appear on the ballot for the 2021
13 General Election as follows:, “Shall the Associated Students amend the Constitution to add that any
14 undergraduate student who is represented by the appointed elected official qualifies to sign a recall
15 petition survey?”.

Article V

SECTION 2. RECALL ELECTIONS

- (a) All elected members of this government are subject to recall from office by election, but no person shall be recalled from office without first serving two months.
- (b) All appointed senators of this government are subject to recall from office by election, but no person shall be recalled from office without first serving two months.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

88th SESSION
2020-2021

S. B. 88-

AN ACT TO ALLOW STUDENTS WITH MULTIPLE MAJORS TO VOTE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE
COLLEGES IN ASUN ELECTIONS

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

JANUARY 17TH, 2021

SUBMITTED BY SENATOR SUPPLE TO THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

A BILL

AN ACT TO ALLOW STUDENTS WITH MULTIPLE MAJORS TO VOTE IN THEIR RESPECTIVE
COLLEGES IN ASUN ELECTIONS

1 *Whereas*, ASUN elections allow for students to vote for senators to represent them based on
2 their respective college;

3 *Whereas*, there are students at the University of Nevada, Reno who are enrolled in multiple
4 majors in multiple colleges;

5 *Whereas*, ASUN elections currently only allowed students to vote in one college;

6 *Whereas*, being that a student is majoring in multiple colleges, senators from multiple colleges
7 would represent them and see them as their constituent;

8 *Whereas*, as a constituent, those students should be able to vote for any senator that may
9 represent them without having to decide which college they choose to represent them;

1 *Whereas*, decisions made by senators in multiple colleges will represent and likely effect their
2 experience in that college;

3 *Whereas*, the Senate of the Associated Students is the one of the two forms of representation
4 that students receive by other students at the University of Nevada, Reno;

5 *Whereas*, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas’s student government allows students enrolled
6 in multiple colleges to vote for senators of multiple colleges³;

7 *Whereas*, students in multiple colleges are allocated in the apportionment of all the colleges
8 they are enrolled in;

9 *Whereas*, when voting online through canvas, students are only offered the vote for their
10 primary college. If the student wishes to vote in the other college, they must go in person;

11 *Whereas*, with the COVID-19 pandemic, in person voting may make students feel unsafe and
12 discourage them from voting in ASUN elections;

13 *Whereas*, the Office of the President stated that a maximum between 2.6 and 4 percent of
14 students are on campus at any given time out of 20,700 students;

15 *Whereas*, the Office of the President stated that 1 in 9 active positive COVID-19 cases in
16 Washoe County were associated with the University community, and the 18-24 age range continues
17 to be the highest range of new COVID-19 cases;

18 *Whereas*, voting on canvas is a simple and accessible way for students to vote in ASUN
19 elections;

20 *Whereas*, students should not have to choose which college they vote for because they will be
21 represented by all the senators of the multiple colleges that the student is enrolled in;

22 *Be it enacted*; the Statutes of the Associated Students be amended in Title VII, Chapter 702,
23 Section 8, d to state “For legislative elections, students who are members of multiple colleges or

³ https://www.unlv.edu/sites/default/files/page_files/27/CSUN-Bylaws-2020.pdf

- 1 schools before the spring semester shall be allowed to vote in all colleges or schools they are enrolled
- 2 in”.