



Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada

90th Session, 2022-2023

A BINDING RESOLUTION TO ENSURE PUBLIC ACCESS TO SENATE MEETINGS

Resolution Number: 117

Authored By: Senator Galvez and Intern Aurora Davis

Sponsored By: 2022-2023 Student Government Assembly

Whereas, the Senate of the Associated Students has no mention of remote technology systems within its governing documents;

Whereas, Speaker Thompson of the 90th session provides access to Senate meetings via zoom with the intent of public access and senator attendance only in the case of illness or other extenuating circumstances;

Whereas, Speaker Thompson's email is on every agenda for the 90th Senate to ensure the public is able to contact him to acquire the Zoom link;

Whereas, the public should be able to virtually access Senate meetings in later sessions, regardless of who the Speaker is;

Whereas, the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic may make it difficult for individuals to attend in-person meetings;

Whereas, the seasonal smoke in Reno continues to cancel classes and meetings on campus, making it a challenge to have in-person Senate meetings;

Whereas, the acquisition of other universities and colleges make it difficult for students on satellite campuses to attend Senate meetings that take place on the University of Nevada, Reno main campus;

Whereas, remote technology systems such as Zoom would allow the public to access Senate meetings, regardless of location, weather, or state of wellbeing;

Be it resolved that, the 90th Session Rules of the Senate adopt the changes in Addendum A;

Be it further resolved that, this legislation be sent to the following individuals:

- President of the Associated Students, Dionne Stanfill
- Speaker of the Senate of the Associated Students, Andrew Thompson
- ASUN Senators of the 90th Session
- Director of the Center for Student Engagement, Sandra Rodriguez

Adopted in Senate on March 29th, 2023

Attest:

Wyatt Layland, Senate Secretary

Andrew Thompson, Speaker of the Senate

Addendum A:

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Rule I: MEETINGS OF THE SENATE

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a) **MEETINGS AT CALL OF SPEAKER**

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The Speaker shall call meetings of the Senate as he, she, or they deems appropriate, provided

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that the Senate shall meet at least once every two full class weeks, and that the regular

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meeting date and time of the Senate shall be on Wednesdays no earlier than 5:30 p.m., unless

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the Senate orders otherwise. The Speaker shall call no less than two meetings of the Student

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Senate at least one week apart during the spring semester of his, her, or their election.

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Each in-person meeting of the Senate shall be accessible through Zoom (or an alternate

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remote technology system), in addition to the in-person meeting location. The remote

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meeting shall be accessible by contacting the speaker via his, her or their email at the top of

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the senate meeting agenda.

1 Addendum B:

2 **Rule II: MEMBERSHIP OF THE SENATE**

3 e) **QUORUM**

4 1) If, at any time during a meeting of the Senate, a question shall be raised by any
5 Senator as to the presence of a quorum, the Speaker shall forthwith direct the Secretary to
6 call the roll and shall announce the result, and these proceedings shall be without debate.

7 2) Whenever upon such roll call it shall be ascertained that a quorum is not present, a
8 majority of the Senators present may direct the Speaker of the Senate to request the
9 attendance of the absent Senators, an order which shall be determined without debate; and
10 pending its execution, and until a quorum shall be present, no debate nor motion, except to
11 adjourn, to recess, or to take other measures to obtain quorum, shall be in order.

12 3) In order for a quorum to be met there must be half of the voting members plus
13 one (the chair and vice-chair are considered voting members). In any case where there are an
14 odd number of voting members present quorum can be met with a simple majority. **Senators**
15 **present, whether in person, or by use of a remote technology system, shall count towards**
16 **quorum so long as the virtual attendance is approved by the Speaker in advance.**