



Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada

90th Session, 2022-2023

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ASUN CONSTITUTION TO DECREASE THE CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR APPOINTED JUSTICES

Bill Number: 23

Authored By: Senator Salah on behalf of Chief Justice Taylor

Sponsored By: 2022-2023 Student Government Assembly

Whereas, the Constitution of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada Article IV, Section 1(b) reads, “QUALIFICATIONS — No person shall be appointed a justice who has not completed 60 undergraduate credits and been a member of the Association for two consecutive semesters”¹;

Whereas, the Statutes of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada Title III: the Judicial Branch, Chapter 301: Judicial Branch Composition, Section 01: Composition: reads, “The Judicial Branch is comprised of four Associate Justices including a Senior Associate Justice, one Chief Justice and Judicial Interns, each appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate of the Associated Students of the University of Nevada to Serve a two-year term.”²;

Whereas, decreasing the credit requirement for the Associate Justice position would increase opportunity for students to participate in the Association;

Whereas, this leaves a small pool of applicants and a low participation in an integral branch of the Association;

Whereas, specifically, this new measure would grant larger access to the specific position that judicial interns train for;

¹ Constitution of the Associated Students: https://de5u0yfu98nbk.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/53996411_89-ASUNConstitution_November2021.pdf

² Statutes of the Associated Students: https://de5u0yfu98nbk.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/53996411_89-sas_12-19-2021_101.pdf

Whereas, it is within the Chief Justice’s job duties to plan, organize, and execute the judicial internship program to include judicial content that is curtailed to an eventual position within the Judicial Branch of the Association³;

Whereas, given that the judicial interns are typically students who have not reached the current 60 credit requirement, the current requirement disincentivizes immediate intern engagement with the position they trained for;

Whereas, this restricts otherwise qualified applicants and only allows students late in their undergraduate education to serve on Judicial Council;

Whereas, Justices serve a two-year term, and often do not complete their full term due to early resignation by means of graduation;

Whereas, this discourages students from applying for judicial positions because of not qualifying by the requirements and not being able to serve a full tenure;

Be it enacted, pursuant to Article IV, Section 1(b) of the Constitution of the Associated Students, upon the passage of this bill, a question seeking approval of decreasing the undergraduate credit requirement for justices in the following ballot question: *“Shall the Associated Students of the University of Nevada decrease the 60 undergraduate credits requirement for appointed justices to 45 undergraduate credits to increase the opportunity for students of the University of Nevada, Reno to be appointed as justices?”*

Adopted in Senate on February 15th, 2023

Attest:

Andrew Thompson, Speaker of the Senate

Dionne Stanfill, President of the Associated Students

³ Statutes of the Associated Students: https://de5u0yfu98nbk.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/53996411_89-sas_12-19-2021_101.pdf

I certify that this Act originated in the Senate.

Wyatt Layland, Senate Secretary