

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

93rd SESSION
2025-2026

S.B.R. 93 -
A BINDING RESOLUTION TO DEFINE THE
DUTIES AND LIAISON POSITIONS OF THE
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD INSECURITY

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

AUGUST 15TH, 2025

SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS BY SENATOR SAPORITO AND PARLIAMENTARIAN ISSA

Whereas, special committees, while temporary in nature, operate under the procedural and structural framework established for standing committees, unless otherwise directed by the Senate or specified in their formation;

Whereas, in the latest version of the 92nd session Rules of The Senate, Rule X: Standing Committee Duties and Rule XI: Special Committees, there is no mention of the Special Committee on Food Insecurity or the liaison positions for the Special Committee on Food Insecurity;

Whereas, Special Committees often appear under special circumstances, and therefore are not common in nature within the student government;

Whereas, Special Committees serve an incredibly unique role within the student government;

Whereas, it is vital to communicate updates within the student government throughout its legal documents;

Whereas, it is vital to update both the student government and student body on the changes, revisions, or additions created from session-to-session;

Whereas, codifying the duties of the Special Committee within the Rules of the Senate will establish a uniformed understanding of the Committees goals, objectives, projects, and functions within the Student Government;

Whereas, codifying the duties of the Special Committee within the Rules of the Senate will ensure that clarity and transparency is prioritized to upcoming or newly-elected Senators who chose to join the Committee;

Whereas, codifying the duties of the Special Committee within the Rules of the Senate will ensure that upcoming ASUN Legislative Interns will not be confused by the development of

the Special Committee;

Whereas, any additions within the Rules of the Senate can later be edited/revised for a more accurate reading;

Whereas, an addition of subsection (c) will highlight the Duties of the Special Committee on Food Insecurity for the 93rd session;

Whereas, subsection (c) will clearly define the Special Committee on Food Insecurity;

Whereas, subsection (c) will define the Special Committee in a similar manner to the Committees established in Rule X: Standing Committee Duties;

Whereas, subsection (c) will offer a summary of the committee for the 93rd session;

Whereas, it is vital for subsection (c) to establish the vital liaison positions founded within the Special Committee;

Whereas, Pack Provisions serves as a vital on-campus resource in the fight against food insecurity, offering free access to nutritious food, hygiene products, and support services for all members of the University of Nevada, Reno community, and fostering a supportive and equitable learning environment;

Whereas, the Desert Farming Initiative plays a pivotal role in addressing food insecurity and promoting sustainable agriculture on campus and across the region, actively collaborating with Pack Provisions and other partners to increase access to fresh, locally grown produce while advancing education, research, and food sovereignty;

Whereas, the Food Bank of Northern Nevada provides critical support to more than 160,000 individuals each month through a vast network of community partnerships and direct service programs, representing a valuable and strategic ally for the Special Committee in addressing regional food insecurity and strengthening community well-being;

Whereas, Wolf Pack Meats, a key part of the University's Experiment Station, provides hands-on education in sustainable meat processing and supports regional food systems by offering locally sourced protein, creating opportunities for student training, academic research, and community food access;

Whereas, Residential Life is dedicated to fostering a comfortable, sustainable, and inclusive living environment for all scholars, while maintaining strong connections with the student body, campus facilities, faculty, and university administration to support student success and well-being;

Whereas, Pack Rides, the University of Nevada, Reno's student-run transportation service, plays a crucial role in promoting campus safety, accessibility, and student well-being by providing free, late-night rides and weekend retail shuttles, thereby reducing transportation barriers that may contribute to food insecurity and ensuring equitable access to essential resources for all students;

Whereas, since 1979, FISH has been a vital resource for rural Northern Nevada, providing over 460,000 Food Pantry meals annually and actively engaging with the Carson City community as well as local and state government to address hunger and support those in need;

Whereas, these liaison positions will uphold duties including but not limited to; student-related issues, outreach opportunities, and general marketing;

Whereas, one of the main priorities of the Special Committee during the 93rd Session regards consistently outreaching with organizations, both on and out of campus;

Whereas, these liaison positions will be heavily recommended to not only outreach and assist their direct contact over the 93rd session, but also communicate and outreach to other neighboring organizations/facilities/faculty;

Whereas, further suggested contacts will be established in the Contact Sheet displayed within the Special Committee Files located in the UNR Box;

Whereas, with the future of the Special Committee—whether removal, continuation, or transition to a Standing Committee—subject to Senate determination at the end of the 93rd Session, the current liaison language should be struck or revised ahead of the 94th Session;

Be it resolved by the Senate of Associated Students, that the 93rd session of Senate Rules reflect the addition of subsection (c), found in Addendum A;

Be it further resolved, that a copy of the legislation be sent to the following individuals:

- Director of the Center for Student Engagement, *Sandra Rodriguez*;
- Associate Director of Student Government, *Luis Aguilar-Herrera*;
- President of the Associated Students, *Carmina Aglubat*;
- Vice President of the Associated Students, *Ethan McNamara*;
- Speaker of the 93rd Senate of the Associated Students, *Leaf Acklin*;
- Chair of the Committee on Government Operations,;
- Assistant Director of Pack Provisions, *Ryan Syad*; and
- Vice President of Student Services, *Heather Speed*

Addendum A

Rule XI: SPECIAL COMMITTEES

a) APPOINTMENT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The formation of a Special committee may occur at the discretion of the Speaker or by binding resolution of any Senator with the approval of the Senate. The Speaker shall appoint the chairperson and other members of the Special Committee, unless the motion creating the committee specifies some other method of selection.

b) MEETINGS AND GENERAL DUTIES OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Special committees shall meet at the discretion of the Chair, subject to any conditions which may be stated in the committee's formation. Special committees shall be responsible for the consideration of all questions referred to them by the Senate and the preparation of legislation as directed by the Senate in their formation or subsequent instructions, and the preparation of all reports required by these Rules or deemed necessary at the discretion of the Chair.

c) ACTIVE SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The following special committees are recognized as currently active. Each committee operates under the authority of the Senate and serves a unique function in addressing specific issues or initiatives. The committees listed here are temporary in nature but are expected to adhere to the Senate's procedural standards unless otherwise directed.

i) SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON FOOD INSECURITY

The Special Committee on Food Insecurity shall be responsible for addressing food insecurity among the student body by assessing current resources, advocating for accessible support systems/services, and working collaboratively with University and Community stakeholders to improve food accessibility. The Special Committee shall be responsible for drafting and advancing legislation related to food insecurity and awareness of food insecurity, both on and off campus. The Special Committee shall hold the Director of Pack Provisions (or a student representative appointed by the Director) as an ex officio member of the committee. The Special Committee must also deliver reports to the Senate Table throughout the 93rd session, in October and February; these reports must focus on the core pillars established by the Special Committee:

Discovery shall serve as the intellectual foundation for the Committee's operations. The Committee shall conduct, gather, and regularly review new and existing data related to food insecurity among the student population. Following the Committee's reporting duties, it shall deliver formal reports to the Senate Table in October and February, focusing specifically on progress within each of the four pillars and evaluating the impact of its initiatives.

Outreach shall focus on building and maintaining relationships with external partners, including local nonprofits, advocacy groups, and food insecurity-based organizations throughout Reno and Carson City. Outreach efforts shall provide a tangible, community-based foundation for the Committee's initiatives.

Collaboration shall emphasize strengthening internal relations with University organizations and administrations. The Committee shall actively engage with departments and student-led organizations. By participating in ongoing programs and assisting with existing initiatives, the Committee shall foster mutual support and establish a visible, reliable presence within the campus ecosystem.

Action shall focus on sustained advocacy and student engagement. This pillar emphasizes the Committee's role in mobilizing the student body through civic engagement. The Committee shall promote volunteer opportunities through platforms such as GivePulse and actively support food distribution and education efforts.