

94th Session of the Senate of the Associated Students

Agenda for Wednesday, August 26th, 2026 at 5:30 P.M.

In Person: Rita Laden Senate Chambers, 3rd Floor of the Joe Crowley Student Union

Zoom Meeting: <https://unr.zoom.us/j/81792961863>

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

2. **COMPLIANCE WITH NEVADA OPEN MEETING LAW**

- a. Was the agenda posted three full working days by 9 am, not including the meeting date?
 - i. <https://nevadaasun.com/meetings/senate-of-the-associated-students-42/>
- b. Is the meeting taking place on the day of the week, month, day, year, at the time and location listed on the agenda?
- c. Is the Zoom link working and available to the public?

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Pledge of Allegiance: I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

Land Acknowledgement: “We acknowledge that the University of Nevada, Reno is situated on the traditional homelands of the Numu (Northern Paiute), Wašiw (Washoe), Newe (Western Shoshone), Nuwu (Southern Paiute) peoples. These lands continue to be a gathering place for Indigenous Peoples and we recognize their deep connections to these places. We extend our appreciation for the opportunity to live and learn on their territory.

4. **ROLL CALL**

Roll Call must be listed by the Legislative Clerk.

5. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)**

There are no minutes to be approved at this time.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT (INFORMATION ONLY)**

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.

Members of the public may participate in the meeting without being physically present by submitting public comment via email speaker@asun.unr.edu or via Zoom conference call. Please email the Senate



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

Posted at the ASUN Offices in the Joe Crowley Student Union and online at www.nevadaasun.com. Requests for supporting material for an agenda item should be directed to the Archives of the Associated Students.

If you would like a copy of any of the agenda items listed, please contact the Senate Secretary at joshuaflan@unr.edu.

Secretary for the meeting details through the email listed above.

7. RECEIPT OF PETITIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE TO THE SENATE AND REFERRAL

The Senate will receive communications addressed to the Senate and, if necessary, refer each to the appropriate committee. No action will be taken on communications other than referring them to committee unless placed on the fast-track agenda.

- a. There were no items submitted to the Speaker of the Senate.

8. REPORTS OF ASUN OFFICERS (INFORMATION ONLY)

The Speaker shall recognize any senior officer of the Association to offer a report on official activities since the previous meeting and make any summary announcements for no longer than five minutes.

- a. President of the Associated Students, Dillon Moss
- b. Vice President of the Associated Students, Luke Calderon
- c. Chief Justice, Emma Silveyra
- d. Director of Executive Outreach, Troy Barrera
- e. Chief of Staff, Madison Atkinson
- f. Director of Clubs and Organizations, Sienna Nepa
- g. Director of Programming, Antonio Munoz
- h. Director of Government Affairs, Isabelle Hatch
- i. Director of IDEA, Jorge Benuto
- j. Director of Sustainability, Kendra Cook
- k. Director of Campus and Public Relations, Keira Mendoza
- l. Director of Campus Wellness, Jordan Brown
- m. Director of Ethics & Compliance, Andrew Sanchez
- n. Speaker of the Senate, Jason Issa

9. REPORTS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES (INFORMATION ONLY)

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

- a. Chair, Committee on Academics and Student Affairs, Michael Nubel
- b. Chair, Committee on Budget and Finance, Henry Lawson
- c. Chair, Committee on Democratic Civic Engagement, Kaylee Radtke
- d. Chair, Committee on Inclusion, Diversity, Equity & Accessibility, Viviana Castro
- e. Chair, Committee on Government Operations, Lance Zuniga
- f. Chair, Committee on Safety, Sustainability, and Wellness, Anna Barrus
- g. Chair, Special Committee on Food Insecurity, Alexander Saporito
- h. Parliamentarian, Faith Strabala
- i. Speaker Pro Tempore, Dominic Evans
- j. Chair, Committee on Oversight, Jason Issa

10. REPORTS OF SECRETARIES OFFICE (INFORMATION ONLY)

The Speaker shall recognize any senior officer of the Association to offer a report on official activities since the previous meeting and make any summary announcements for no longer than five minutes.

- a. Senate Secretary, Joshua Fan

- b. Senate Secretary, Jaya Naidu
- c. Legislative Clerk, Daphne Gutierrez

11. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK APPOINTMENTS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

The motion to fast track a resolution or appointment confirmation shall be in order if recommended by the committee of relevant jurisdiction.

- a. There were no items submitted to the Speaker of the Senate.

12. APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS OF SENATORS AND ASUN OFFICIALS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

The Senate will consider the following nominations for Association office. When the Senate has concluded its deliberations, the Senate may approve the nomination, reject the nomination, or take no action upon the nomination.

- a. There were no appointments submitted to the Speaker of the Senate.

13. VETO MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

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

- a. There were no veto messages submitted to the Speaker of the Senate.

14. CONSENT AGENDA (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

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.

- a. There were no items submitted to the Speaker of the Senate.

15. FIRST READING OF LEGISLATION (INFORMATION ONLY)

The following bills and resolutions will receive their first reading and may be considered under item 16 of this agenda:

- a. S.R. 94 – A Resolution in Opposition of the Elimination of the NSHE Committee on IDEA
- b. S.B. 94 – An Act to Provide for Routine Operational & Institutional Expenditures of the Senate

16. MOTIONS TO FAST-TRACK LEGISLATION (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

A Senator may move that legislation under item 16 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:

- a. S.R. 94 – A Resolution in Opposition of the Elimination of the NSHE Committee on IDEA

17. REFERRALS TO COMMITTEE (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

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

- a. S.B. 94 – An Act to Provide for Routine Operational & Institutional Expenditures of the Senate

18. SECOND READING OF LEGISLATION (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

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

- a. S.B. 94 – An Act to Establish the Furthering Education Scholarship Program
- b. S.R. 94 – A Resolution in Opposition of the Elimination of the NSHE Committee on IDEA

19. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS (FOR POSSIBLE ACTION)

a. Robert's Rules of Order Training

The Senate Parliamentarian will deliver a presentation and training to the wider Senate body on how to understand and use Robert's Rules of Order for the business of the Senate of the Associated Students.

b. Senate Committee Changes and Additions

The Senate may make changes to committee assignments.

c. Senator Reports

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

20. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (INFORMATION ONLY)

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

21. PUBLIC COMMENT (INFORMATION ONLY)

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.

22. ADJOURNMENT

23. NOTES

Unless otherwise marked by an asterisk, all agenzized 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 Speaker. The Senate may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The Senate may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time. Any inquiries or requests for supporting material for an agenda item should be directed to the Secretary of the Senate at joshuaflan@unr.edu.

The Associated Students 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 ASUN at (775) 784-6589 or email the Senate Secretary at joshuaflan@unr.edu in advance so that arrangements may be conveniently made.

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

94th SESSION
2026-2027

S. B. 94 -
AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE FURTHERING
EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

JUNE 12TH, 2026

SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS BY SENATOR ANNA BARRUS ON BEHALF OF
PRESIDENT DILLON MOSS AND VICE PRESIDENT LUKE CALDERON

Whereas, the Associated Students of the University of Nevada have previously demonstrated its commitment to reducing financial barriers for students through initiatives such as the Passion Fund¹;

Whereas, graduate school entrance examinations, professional licensure examinations, and certification examinations often cost several hundred dollars, creating a financial obstacle that may delay or prevent students from pursuing advanced educational and career opportunities;

Whereas, eligible examinations shall include graduate school entrance examinations (including but not limited to the MCAT, LSAT, GRE, and GMAT), professional licensure examinations, certification examinations required for employment or professional advancement;

Whereas, students from low-income, first-generation, and historically underserved backgrounds may be disproportionately impacted by these additional costs, limiting their ability to access the same academic and professional opportunities as their peers; and

Whereas, reducing financial barriers related to required exams aligns with ASUN's responsibility to advocate for student success, accessibility, and equitable access to academic and professional advancement; and

Whereas, providing financial assistance for required exams would allow students to better focus on their academic preparation, career readiness, and long-term success rather than the financial burden of paying for required testing; and

¹ Passion Fund provides financial assistance to students seeking to join registered student organizations, ensuring they can fully engage in their organization's programs and events by covering membership dues

Whereas, supporting students with the cost of required exams serves as an investment in the academic achievement, professional development, and future success of the student body at the University of Nevada; and

Whereas, ASUN has the ability to create student-centered programs that respond directly to the needs of the student body and remove barriers that may prevent students from reaching their educational and career goals; and

Whereas, the creation of a program to assist students with required exam costs would further ASUN's mission of serving, supporting, and advocating for the Associated Students of the University of Nevada; and

THE STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA REPRESENTED IN

THE SENATE, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Be it enacted, that the Associated Students of the University of Nevada shall establish the Furthering Education Scholarship Program, hereinafter referred to as the "FESP," to provide financial support to students as they pursue their education further.; and

Be it further enacted, that the Associated Students of the University of Nevada supports the creation of this financial assistance program to help students offset the costs of required academic and professional programs; and

Be it further enacted, that \$10,000.00 shall be reallocated from the ASUN Executive Outreach fund to support the creation of the Furthering Education Scholarship Program; and

Be it further enacted, that the language of Addendum A be adopted in full upon passage and approval by the President of the Associated Students;

Be it further enacted, that the language of Addendum B be adopted in full upon passage and approval by the President of the Associated Students;

Be it further enacted, that a copy of this bill will be sent to:

- Director of ASUN, *VACANT*
- Senior Associate Director of ASUN, *Amy Koeckes*
- Assistant Director for Student Government, *Luis Aguliar-Herrera*
- President of ASUN, *Dillon Moss*
- Vice President of ASUN, *Luke Calderon*
- Speaker of the 94th Senate, *Jason Issa*
- Chair of the Committee on Budget and Finance, *Henry Lawson*
- Chair of the Committee on Government Operations, *Lance Zuniga*

Addendum A

TITLE XXXI: The Furthering Education Scholarship Program

CHAPTER 3101: THE FURTHERING EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

SECTION 01: ESTABLISHMENT

There is hereby a service offered within the Association called the Further Education Scholarship Program.

SECTION 02: PURPOSE

The purpose of the Furthering Education Scholarship Program is to provide support for students that want to pursue education beyond their undergraduate career at the University of Nevada without the worry of financial burden.

SECTION 03: ADMINISTRATION

The Program shall be administered by the Associated Students of the University of Nevada with the support of the Center for Student Engagement.

- a. The Application of the Furthering Education Scholarship Program shall be monitored by the Chief of Staff and a member of the professional staff of the Center for Student Engagement.
- b. Should a student qualify for assistance and be awarded funds from the program, a scholarship retrieval form shall be completed by the CSE Accounting office and shall be routed to the office of Financial Aid and Scholarships to confirm eligibility.
- c. All scholarship awards shall be processed in accordance with University of Nevada and federal financial aid policies. Final disbursement shall occur only after review and approval by the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships.

SECTION 04: OVERSIGHT

The program will be overseen by a number of officers to ensure that it is administered properly.

- a. The program will be overseen by the following officers
 - i. The President of ASUN
 - ii. Vice President of ASUN
 - iii. Chief of Staff of ASUN
 - iv. The Chair of the Committee on Budget and Finance

SECTION 05: REPORTING

The President of the Associated Students shall draft and deliver a report of the program to the ASUN Senate at the end of each session with the assistance of CSE Professional Staff..

- a. The report shall include the following information
 - i. Total applications received;
 - ii. Total awards granted;
 - iii. Total funds distributed;
 - iv. Average award amount;
 - v. Types of examinations funded;
 - vi. Remaining program balance;
 - vii. Aggregate demographic information that does not identify individual students;
 - viii. Recommendations regarding future appropriations and program improvements.

SECTION 06: ELIGIBILITY

A student must adhere to the following to be eligible for the Furthering Education Scholarship Program

- a. Maintain at least a 2.00 GPA at the time of application.
- b. Be enrolled in at least 6 undergraduate credits at the time of application.
- c. Eligible examinations shall include graduate school entrance examinations (including but not limited to the MCAT, LSAT, GRE, and GMAT), professional licensure examinations, certification examinations required for employment or professional advancement.

SECTION 07: REGULATION

Students that seek to use funds within the Furthering Education Scholarship Program may only qualify for the program no more than one time.

- a. Students must cite what test they expect to take with the funds that they would receive if they meet eligibility requirements.
- b. Individual awards shall not exceed \$500 per applicant unless otherwise authorized through the annual budgeting process.
- c. Awards shall be distributed until annual appropriated funds have been exhausted.
- d. If funding requests exceed available appropriations, priority shall be given to applicants demonstrating financial need, first-generation college students, students completing degree-required examinations, and students who have not previously received funding through the program.
- e. Individual awards may only be granted to undergraduate students.

SECTION 08: ADVERTISEMENT

The Director of Campus and Public Relations shall work in partnership with any officer providing oversight of the Furthering Education Scholarship Program to advertise this program every Fall and Spring Semester

- a. Marketing shall be posted within the first month of the semester.

Addendum B

Account Number	Furthering Education Scholarship Program			
	Operating			
	Student Support			-
	Program Scholarship Funds			\$10,000
	Balance Forward	10,000.00		
Total Scholarship Program				\$10,000.00
				\$10,000.00
				T. Actual Dollars
				T. Allocated



From: Anna Barrus; Senator for the School of Public Health, and Viviana Castro; Chair on the Committee on Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility

TO: Jason Issa, Speaker of the Senate

Date: August 19th, 2026

RE: S.R. 94 – *A Resolution in Opposition of the Elimination of the NSHE Committee on IDEA*

Speaker Issa and Members of the 94th Senate,

We are requesting that S.R. 94 - *A Resolution in Opposition of the Elimination of the NSHE Committee on IDEA*, be considered for fast-track. The Board of Regents is scheduled to consider the elimination of the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access (IDEA) Committee at its August 27, 2026, meeting. The proposed change would eliminate the IDEA Committee as a standing committee and move IDEA-related discussions to the full Board.

We believe this resolution needs to be considered before the Board of Regents makes a decision so that ASUN has the opportunity to formally share the student's perspective. The IDEA Committee has provided a specific space for issues involving inclusion, diversity, equity, and access to be discussed and addressed within NSHE. The committee is also responsible for reviewing IDEA-related issues, recommending policies, annual diversity reports, and increasing awareness of these topics across the System.

While we understand the Board's reasoning that moving these issues to the full Board could create broader engagement and more comprehensive decision-making, we do not believe that eliminating the committee is necessary to accomplish that. Having the full Board involved in IDEA issues and having a committee dedicated to these issues are not mutually exclusive. A dedicated committee allows for more focused discussion and gives these issues a consistent place on the Board's agenda.

The Board's own briefing paper recognizes that keeping the IDEA Committee provides focused attention to issues that may otherwise receive less discussion when competing with other Board priorities. It also allows for deeper discussion of complex issues before recommendations are

brought to the full Board. We believe this is especially important because issues surrounding inclusion, diversity, equity, and access directly affect students throughout NSHE.

Fast-tracking this resolution would allow ASUN to take a position and communicate with the Board of Regents before the August 27th meeting. We believe it is important for the student government to speak on this issue while there is still an opportunity for student input to be considered.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that S.R. 94 be fast-tracked. This resolution is not meant to prevent the full Board from discussing IDEA-related issues. Instead, it supports maintaining a dedicated committee so that these issues continue to receive focused attention, discussion, and oversight within NSHE.

Respectfully,

Anna Barrus, Senator for the School of Public Health

Viviana Castro, Chair for the Committee on Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, and Accessibility

Associated Students of the University of Nevada

[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

94th SESSION
2026-2027

**S. R. 94-
A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION OF
THE ELIMINATION OF THE NSHE
COMMITTEE ON IDEA**

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

AUGUST 19TH, 2026

SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS BY SENATORS BARRUS AND
CASTRO
SENATOR,

**A Resolution in Opposition of the Elimination of the NSHE Committee
on IDEA**

- 1 *Whereas*, the Cultural Diversity and Security Committee was established in 2005 to
2 "recommend policies to the Board that create, enhance, promote, and support a diverse culture
3 and provide a secure environment for students, faculty, staff, and the public.",¹
4 *Whereas*, in 2009, responsibility for security matters was removed from the Committee's
5 charge, and it was renamed the Cultural Diversity Committee. Since then, the Committee has
6 undergone several name changes, serving as the Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access (IDEA)
7 Committee since 2022;

¹ BOARD OF REGENTS BRIEFING PAPER

8 *Whereas*, the Board of Regents suggested eliminating the Board of Regents Inclusion,
9 Diversity, Equity and Access Committee;

10 *Whereas*, the reasoning for the elimination is as follows, “Considering these matters before
11 the full Board promotes coordination across all areas of Board oversight, ensures that all Board
12 members share responsibility and accountability for related policies and outcomes, and enhances
13 transparency by conducting discussions and decision-making in a single public forum”;

14 *Whereas*, a decision to abolish the NSHE committee on IDEA falls in line with demanded
15 program changes listed in President Donald Trump's executive order 14151, removing the
16 mention of DEI or DEI adjacent material from the federal government;

17 *Whereas*, eliminating IDEA as a standing committee presents many flaws;

18 *Whereas*, “Allows IDEA-related topics to be considered in the context of finance,
19 academics, student affairs, workforce, and other Board responsibilities, where they may be more
20 directly relevant”, issues could become less visible when they are competing with other
21 responsibilities of the Board;

22 *Whereas*, “Reinforces that these issues are integral to the Board's overall governance and
23 oversight responsibilities, rather than the responsibility of a single committee”, when these issues
24 are handled by the entire board, the issues can easily become no one’s responsibility, having to
25 compete with finances, academics, workforce development, student affairs, and other priorities;

26 *Whereas*, “Promotes broader Board engagement and more comprehensive decision-making”
27 does not necessarily mean more informed decision-making when thinking of IDEA-related issues
28 that pertain to students;

29 *Whereas*, “Streamlines the committee structure and reduces duplicative meetings and
30 administrative support”, efficiency should not come at the expense of dedicated oversight to
31 IDEA-related issues;

Whereas, within Impetus (WHY) “Efficiency periodic review and evaluation of the Board’s committee structure is a governance best practice aimed at promoting efficient and effective governance and aligning resources and activities with current needs and objectives,” implies there is not an exigent need for accessible forums;

Whereas, committee meetings present an accessible forum for NSHE constituents wishing to speak solely to matters of DEI, and who cannot attend NSHE Board of Regents’ meetings;

Whereas, matters within all Board of Regents’ committees can and are discussed at the board level, the specific abolishment of the IDEA committee serves as statement regarding value placed in forums guaranteed to address issues of inclusivity, diversity, equity, and accessibility;

Whereas, the committee is tasked with the creation of annual diversity reports, compiling admissions and attendance information pertaining to student racial and identity-based demographics in compliance with Board of Regents' policy, Title IV, Chapter 8, Section 7 and *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 396.532.;

Whereas, these reports are crucial to understanding inner racial dynamics within higher education, and are utilized by community members and NSHE constituents, the abolishment of the committee serves as statement that these reports are not considered substantive business by the board;

Whereas, from the committee's establishment in 2005, multiple controversies regarding ethnic/racial discrimination have occurred on NSHE campuses;

Whereas, in 2022, the NSHE Board of Regents condemned Regent Boylan for his transphobic remarks as a member of the board;

Whereas, the NSHE committee on IDEA stands as the highest-ranking committee regarding Inclusivity, Diversity, and Accessibility within the system

55 *Whereas*, abolishing such a committee on the highest level of both power and scrutiny
 56 degrades the value of IDEA/DEI committees on multiple system levels, and may encourage other
 57 bodies to infer such matters as unneeded

58 *Whereas*, the removal of such a committee from this level of power, implies that issues of
 59 diversity and inclusivity, such as racial discrimination, are not deserving of the individual
 60 attention issues of finance and academics are treated to

61 *Whereas*, occurring meetings consistent with existent NSHE problems regarding DEI, reflect
 62 a properly working system of parliamentary procedure, not an ineffective committee;

63 *Whereas*, governance is deliberate and properly based on conversation and discussion,
 64 rendering issues relating to DEI as business items within other committees reassigns context for
 65 such issues away from their roots in the politics of DEI;

66 *Be it resolved that*, the Senate of the Associate Students is in opposition of the Nevada
 67 System of Higher Education's consideration of abolishing its DEI Committee;

68 *Be it further resolved*, that the Associated Students of the University of Nevada-Reno
 69 supports NSHE in retaining the Committee on IDEA, to ensure dedicated and intentional forum
 70 for student and NSHE constituent usage;

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

- 72 • President of the ASUN, Dillon Moss
- 73 • Vice President of ASUN, Luke Calderon
- 74 • Director of Government Affairs, Isabelle Hatch
- 75 • Director of IDEA, Jorge Benuto
- 76 • Commissioner of Social Justice and Policy, Ryan Rushton
- 77 • Director of the Disability Resource Center, Shane Carter
- 78 • Director of the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Dr. Melanie Duckworth

- 79 • Executive Assistant the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Cheyenne
- 80 Magpantay

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[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

94th SESSION
2026-2027

S.B. 94 -
AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR ROUTINE
OPERATIONAL & INSTITUTIONAL
EXPENDITURES OF THE SENATE

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

JULY 15TH, 2026

SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS BY SENATOR SAPORITO
AUTHORED BY SPEAKER ISSA

Whereas, the Senate of the Associated Students maintains Senate-controlled accounts to support the ordinary operations and institutional functions of the Legislative Branch; and

Whereas, the Senate has established a process requiring any Senator wishing to use funds from Senate-controlled accounts to draft a standard budget and submit the proposed budget to the Committee on Budget and Finance for consideration; and

Whereas, review by the Committee on Budget and Finance promotes transparency, accountability, and responsible stewardship in the expenditure of student funds; and

Whereas, the existing expenditure review process is appropriately designed to provide oversight of discretionary expenditures proposed by individual Senators; and

Whereas, the existing language broadly applies to any Senator wishing to use funds from Senate-controlled accounts, without distinction between discretionary expenditures proposed by a Senator and routine expenditures necessary to maintain the operations and institutional practices of the Senate; and

Whereas, office supplies and other ordinary administrative materials are necessary for the continued and efficient operation of the Legislative Branch; and

Whereas, requiring individual consideration by the Committee on Budget and Finance for each routine operational purchase may unnecessarily delay Senate operations and expend limited committee time on ordinary administrative matters; and

Whereas, the Senate and the Association maintain ceremonial traditions and institutional practices intended to recognize the service, accomplishments, and contributions of student leaders; and

Whereas, such traditions and practices may require the purchase, engraving, replacement, maintenance, or display of plaques, nameplates, awards, composites, and other commemorative materials; and

Whereas, expenditures necessary to continue a preexisting ceremonial tradition are institutional in nature and are distinguishable from discretionary expenditures proposed for the individual benefit or initiative of a Senator; and

Whereas, the current expenditure review process may require a Senator who is the recipient of customary institutional recognition to personally request, budget for, and seek committee approval for an expenditure associated with their own recognition; and

Whereas, requiring a Senator to personally request funds for recognition customarily afforded to similarly situated recipients may create an unnecessary appearance of self-interest despite the expenditure arising from a preexisting institutional practice; and

Whereas, this appearance is particularly unnecessary when the identity of the recipient does not determine whether the expenditure would otherwise occur; and

Whereas, the current expenditure review process was recently established and may not have contemplated the application of its requirements to routine operational expenditures or the continuation of preexisting ceremonial traditions; and

Whereas, narrowly exempting routine operational and established institutional expenditures from individualized committee preapproval will preserve meaningful fiscal oversight while allowing the Senate to efficiently conduct ordinary business and maintain its institutional traditions; now, therefore,

***THE STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA REPRESENTED IN THE
SENATE, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:***

Be it enacted, that the changes outlined in Addendum A are adopted into the Statutes of the Associated Students; and

Be it further enacted, that this bill be sent to the following individuals:

- Director, Center for Student Engagement, *Dion Webb-Figueroa*;
- Associate Director, Student Government, *Luís Aguilar-Herrera*;
- Associate Director, Business Operations, Center for Student Engagement, *Wei Jiang*;
- President, Associated Students, *Dillon Moss*;
- Vice President, Associated Students, *Luke Calderon*;
- Speaker, 94th Senate, Associated Students, *Jason Issa*; and
- Chair, Committee on Budget & Finance, *Henry Lawson*

Addendum A

TITLE VI: TREASURY OF THE ASSOCIATION

CHAPTER 601: TREASURY OF THE ASSOCIATION

SECTION 06: SENATE ACCOUNTS

The Speaker of the Senate shall have signing authority over accounts under the control of the Senate. The Speaker may delegate signing authority to the chair of any committee under the jurisdiction of the Senate for the purpose of expending such funds as may be necessary for the conduct of committee business.

- a) Any senator wishing to use funds from **Senate-controlled accounts** **the Senate Outreach account** must draft a standard budget and submit the proposed budget to the Chair of the Committee on Budget and Finance.
- b) The Chair of the Committee on Budget and Finance shall place the budget on the agenda for consideration at the next available meeting of the committee
- c) Upon approval, the Senator requesting funds may submit their request to the Speaker or designee for final approval.
- d) The Committee on Budget and Finance shall adopt timely procedures to ensure review of expenditure requests so as not to unreasonably delay Senate operations. If the Committee on Budget and Finance is cancelled or otherwise unable to address a submitted budget request, the request shall be forwarded to the next Senate meeting for consideration.
- e) **Expenditures from Senate-controlled accounts other than the Senate Outreach account may be authorized by the Speaker without approval from the Committee on Budget and Finance when such expenditures are for the ordinary administration and operation of the Senate or the continuation of established ceremonial traditions.**
 - i) **For the purposes of this section, expenditures for the ordinary administration and operation of the Senate may include office supplies, name plates, printing materials, administrative materials, and other goods reasonably necessary for the conduct of Senate business.**
 - ii) **For the purposes of this section, an established ceremonial tradition means a recurring practice of the Senate or Association recognizing service, achievement, or institutional history, including plaques, awards, composites, nameplates, and similar commemorative materials.**