A Resolution to Support Solar Panel Projects on Campus

Whereas, The University of Arkansas is dedicated to reducing carbon emissions to the same levels as they were in 1990 by 2021 and to achieving carbon neutrality in 2040. These goals, which have been approved by Chancellor Steinmetz, can be accomplished through investments in alternative energy projects.

Whereas, In 2019, the Arkansas House and Senate previously passed SB 145; a bill aiming to expand the economy by permitting the sale and purchase of solar panels within the state. This measure enables institutions to implement cost-efficient and energy-preserving solar panel programs.

Whereas, The University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture (UADA) is currently developing a solar services agreement for clean energy production.

Whereas, As cited in a third party report regarding the UADA’s current pursuit of alternative energy and the potential for project expansion for the main campus, these projects will save the UA System ~$4-5 million over the contract term (~20 years), with no upfront costs. Additionally, UADA’s electricity rates will decrease by ~27% through this solar services agreement.

Whereas, While the UADA solar panel project is officially approved, the further expansion of solar panel technologies for the main campus at UA Fayetteville has not yet been approved.

Be it therefore resolved: That the Associated Student Government Senate encourages the University of Arkansas administration to invest in a solar services agreement for the UA Fayetteville campus.
Be it further resolved: That the Associated Student Government Senate supports the University of Arkansas sustainability goals of net neutrality by 2040 and the maintenance of 1990’s carbon emission levels by 2021 and asks the Board of Trustees to consider these in their decision.

Be it finally resolved: A copy of this legislation will be sent to Mike Johnson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Management, Eric Boles, Director of the Office for Sustainability, Chancellor Joseph Steinmetz, Morril Harriman, Chair of Building and Grounds Committee for the Board of Trustees, and Ann Bordelon, the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration and a member of the Chancellor’s Executive Committee.

Amendments: ________________________________

Vote Count: Aye _______  Nay _______  Abstentions _______

Legislation Status: Passed _____  Failed _____  Other _______

___________________________   ________________
Caleb Parker, ASG Chair of the Senate Date

___________________________   ________________
Julia Nall, ASG President Date