**Associated Student Government**

*University of Arkansas*

*ASG Joint Bill No. 7*

Author(s): ASG President Connor Flocks, ASG Vice President Maggie Benton, ASG Treasurer Shelby Cormack, ASG Secretary Jase Rapert, ASG Chief of Staff Taylor Farr, Sen. Spencer Bone, Sen. Trevor Villines, Sen. Clay Smith

Sponsor(s): Director of Campus Life Andrew Counce, Chair of Senate Will Watkins, Senator Courtney Brooks, Senator Daniel Allen, Senator Abby Sikes, Senator Dotty Fries, Senator Danielle Zapata, Senator Brandon Davis, Senator Moses Agare, Senator Coy Lewis, Senator Elliott Cole, Senator Boyd Kennemer, Senator Taylor Hill, Senator Christine Carroll, Senator Scott Sims, Senator Jesse Kloss, Senator Blake Barron, Senator Blake Flemister, Senator Nabil Bhimani, Senator Luke Humphrey, Senator Colman Betler, Senator JP Gairhan, Senator William Neely, Senator Drew Dorsey, Senator Scottie Taylor, Senator Chris Troupe, Senator Riley McGill, Senator Kevin Sacks, Senator Jacob Boone

**The Equal Representation Act of 2017**

Whereas, The Associated Student Government has been a central channel at the University of Arkansas for student to express their voice since 1921; and

Whereas, The Graduate Student Congress has been created in recent years in order to better represent the constituents of the Graduate, Law, and Professional programs; and

Whereas, The Graduate and Professional students have constantly striven to achieve a more equal representation in the Associated Student Government; and

Whereas, The current Proportional Voting structure minimizes the representation of the Graduate Student voice in the Legislative Branch; and

Whereas, The United States Congress and the Arkansas General Assembly serve as frameworks for a majority of our current structure; then

Be it therefore resolved: That the Graduate Student Congress and Senate have equal representation for their constituents; and

Be it therefore resolved: That Article II, Section 1, Subsection G be stricken from the ASG Constitution; and

Be it therefore resolved: That Article II, Section 1, Subsection G be added and be amended to read “The ASG Budget shall be approved by independent majority votes from both legislative bodies;” and

Be it further resolved: ASG Constitution Article I, Section 6, Subsection J be amended to read “The President shall appoint the members of the ASGJ, for the independent two-thirds (2/3) approval of both legislative bodies;” and

Be it further resolved: ASG Constitution Article 1, Section 7, Subsection B be amended to read “The Vice President shall be required to submit to both legislative bodies for independent approval nominations for student representatives to any non-ASG committee. Approved nominations will then be submitted to the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs;” and

Be it further resolved: ASG Constitution Article 2, Section 1, Subsection H, Sub-Subsection b, Sub-Sub-Subsection ii be amended to read “A legislative body has drafted and voted on an amendment;” and

Be it further resolved: ASG Constitution Article 2, Section 1, Subsection K be amended to read “If ASGJ rules that the “rights and operation” of a legislative body has been infringed, the infringed upon legislative body may either nullify the bill or resolution in question, or pass it by a simple majority,” striking Sub-Subsections a & b; and

Be it further resolved: ASG Constitution Article 2, Section 7, Subsection H be amended to read “To send Constitutional Amendments to a referendum of the general ASG membership by as outlined in Article VI, Section 2 of this Constitution;” and

Be it further resolved: ASG Constitution Article 2, Section 17, Subsection H be amended to read “To send Constitutional Amendments to a referendum of the general ASG membership as outlined in Article VI, Section 2 of this Constitution;” and

Be it further resolved: ASG Constitution Article III, Section 3, Subsection D be amended to read “If a Judicial Proxy’s seat is vacated, the ASG President shall appoint a new Judicial Proxy with the advice and consent of the Senate and GSC as soon as practicable;” and

Be it further resolved: ASG Constitution Article 6, Section 2, Subsection A be amended to read “This Constitution shall be amended by an independent two-thirds (2/3) margin by both legislative bodies, (unless initiated as outlined in Article VI, Section 3 of this Constitution), by a majority of votes cast in a referendum of the general ASG membership, and by approval of the Chancellor;” and

Be it further resolved: ASG Constitution Article 6, Section 2, Subsection B be amended to read “Both legislative bodies may establish transitional regulations for amendments made to this Constitution via a resolution passed by an independent two-thirds (2/3) margin by both legislative bodies, subject to approval of the Chancellor;” and

Be it further resolved: ASG Code Title I, Section 3, Subsection D be amended to read “At the request of the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, the nominations of the Vice President can be provisionally appointed by the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs without the Legislative Branch’s approval if and only if the University, Faculty, Administrative, or other non-ASG committee requests student representation before both legislative bodies are able to approve the nominations. After both legislative bodies have come to session, however, both legislative bodies must approve or reject the nominations and provisional appointments independently by simple majority before the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs officially appoints those students to the committees. If the legislative branch rejects any provisional appointments, the Vice President must nominate different students for those positions, and the original, provisional appointments will be replaced;” and

Be it further resolved: ASG Code Title I, Section 3, Subsection E be amended to read “University, Faculty, Administrative, or other non-ASG committee chairs may petition the ASG Vice President, through the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, to appoint student committee members at other points in time throughout the year as needed. These appointments must be approved or rejected by the both ASG legislative bodies independently by simple majority and as outlined in this Code; and;” and

Be it further resolved: ASG Code Title IV, Section 4, Subsection D, Sub-Subsection c be amended to read “Appointed Justices and Judicial Proxies shall be confirmed by an independent two-thirds (2/3) vote of both legislative bodies;” and

Be it further resolved: ASG Code Title IV, Section 4, Subsection D, Sub-Subsection d be amended to read “The Senate and GSC shall vote only once in regards to each Justice or Judicial Proxy Candidate. Any Justice or Judicial Proxy not confirmed by a two-thirds (2/3) required vote of either legislative body shall not be appointed;” and

Be it further resolved: ASG Code Title V, Section 2, Subsection D, Sub-Subsection f be amended to read “The ASG Legislative Branch shall approve or disapprove the ASG Executive Operating Budget by a majority vote in both bodies independently;” and

Be it further and finally resolved: that the referendum to approve these ASG Constitutional changes will coincide with the spring general election, and must follow all the rules and regulations found in the current ASG Constitution. The text of the referendum shall read: “Do you support Graduate, Law, and Professional students having an equal vote to the ASG Senate?”

*Official Use Only*

Amendments:

GSC Vote Count: Aye Nay Abstentions

Senate Vote Count: Aye Nay Abstentions

Legislation Status: Passed Failed­ Other

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Scout Johnson, GSC Speaker Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Will Watkins, ASG Chair of the Senate Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Connor Flocks, ASG President Date