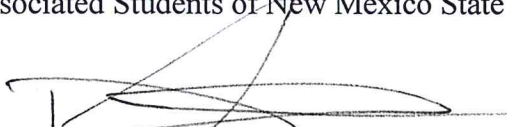


The Associated Students
Of
New Mexico State University

BILL #191

The attached legislation has been properly approved by the members of the Sixtieth Senate of the Associated Students of New Mexico State University in accordance with ASNMSU Law.



Donovan Olvera, ASNMSU Chief Senate Clerk 5/5/17
Date



Kevin Prieto, ASNMSU Vice President 5/7/17
Date

I, Mathew Bose, hereby sign into law this attached piece of legislation.



Mathew Bose, ASNMSU President 5/8/17
Date

SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS
OF NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY

BILL #191

SIXTIETH SENATE

2016-2017

Introduced by: Forbes, Stevens Date: 04/11/2017

Referred to: Rules, Community Affairs, Finance Date: 04/13/2017

Senate Action: PASSED Date: 04/27/2017

Date Signed: _____

LX-16-17

AN ACT

1 AMENDING SECTIONS 7-4-3-P, 7-4-3-P-1 AND 7-4-3-P-2 OF THE 2016-2017 ASNMSU LAW BOOK. BE IT
2 ENACTED BY THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY.

3

4 Section 1: Purpose of Act.

5 In order to change the title of the Senate “averages” to “Recommended Average Expenditures”, in order to properly
6 represent what they reflect and to lower the majority required for bill above the recommended averages to pass from
7 a $\frac{3}{4}$ supermajority to a $\frac{2}{3}$ supermajority unless the Senate has reached either of its Spring or Fall “soft” spending
8 caps. Amended with deleted material [in brackets] and inserted material underlined:
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10 Section 2: Main Provisions.

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12 7. FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

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14 ...

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16 7-4. SENATE APPROPRIATIONS ACT

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18 ...

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20 7-4-3. MAIN PROVISIONS

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24 P. For any legislation introduced that is under the [average cost] Recommended Average Expenditure per
25 person, for its type of travel, the ASNMSU Senate shall vote on the final passage of the bill by simple
26 majority. If a bill is higher than the [average cost] Recommended Average Expenditure per person, for its
27 type of travel, the final passage of the bill shall be determined by a [three-quarters (3/4)] two-thirds (2/3)
28 vote. Should the senate have appropriated fifteen percent (15%) of the Surplus Account balance minus
29 seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) during the fall semester or thirty percent (30%) of the Surplus
30 Account balance minus seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) during the spring semester, as referenced
31 in Section 8–13 of the Rules of the Senate, any subsequent bills that are voted upon during the remainder of
32 that semester that have a higher cost per individual than the Recommended Average Expenditures shall
33 have their final passage determined by a three-quarters vote (3/4).

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35 1. The [funding averages] Recommended Average Expenditures for legislation are as follows [according to
36 2015-2016 expenses];

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- a. Individual travel regardless of travel type: six hundred dollars (\$600)
 - b. Conference Attendance: four hundred dollars (\$400)
 - c. Conference Presentation: four hundred and fifty dollars (\$450)
 - d. Research: four hundred and fifty dollars (\$450)
 - e. Competition: four hundred dollars (\$400)
 - f. Community Service: five hundred dollars (\$500)
 - g. Humanitarian: no average
2. It shall be the responsibility of the Finance committee to determine whether a bill is over its average cost per person, for its type of travel, and make a note of it in the traveling notebook.

55 Section 3: Rationale.

56 The Senate “averages” were first utilized during the 58th Senate, when Senators from the Engineering College
57 created a spreadsheet that roughly calculated the average appropriation per person that the ASNMSU Senate had
58 passed that year for various types of travel. At the convening of the 59th Senate, these averages were codified into
59 law and inserted into the ASNMSU Law Book with bills that were above the average expenditure requiring a $\frac{3}{4}$
60 supermajority for final passage. Though the averages certainly serve a purpose, as they provide the Senate with a
61 mechanism by which it can regulate its spending given the current contractionary fiscal period at NMSU, a $\frac{3}{4}$
62 majority is unusually high requirement for legislation to pass the floor, even given the circumstances. Furthermore,
63 the “averages” are not truly averages, but are rather recommended averages that were rounded out from the
64 calculations of the 58th Senate. This bill will change the title of the “averages” to “Recommended Funding
65 Expenditures” to properly reflect what they actually are, and lower the majority required to pass appropriations that
66 are above average to a $\frac{2}{3}$ majority, unless the Senate has reached either its fall or spring “soft” caps, as established
67 in Section 8-13 of the Rules of the Senate, in which case the majority required to pass such appropriations will
68 remain a $\frac{3}{4}$ for the remainder of that semester.