



**UNLVCSUN**  
STUDENT GOVERNMENT

**CONSOLIDATED STUDENTS**  
**UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS**  
*55th Legislative Session*

---

**EXECUTIVE BILL 55-08**

---

**AN ACT TO AMEND THE CSUN CONSTITUTION AND REDUCE  
THE AMOUNT OF JUDICIAL COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Bill Number: SB 55-08

Authors of Legislation: Kelechi Oduze, Student Body President  
Sponsor of Legislation: Internal Affairs Committee

---

**WHEREAS**, the Consolidated Students of the University of Nevada (CSUN) represents all 27,000+ undergraduate students enrolled at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, the Senate of the Consolidated Students of the University of Nevada, under the authority of CSUN Constitution VI.D.01, is “empowered to enact any legislation that falls under the jurisdiction of CSUN”; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, it is the duty of this government to maintain and improve the governing documents for CSUN upon the recognition of necessity to do so; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, CSUN must actively ensure that our governing documents remain current and accurately reflect our student government; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, ARTICLE VII of the CSUN Constitution currently establishes a nine-member Judicial Council with a quorum of seven, which has proven difficult to maintain and inefficient for regular proceedings; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, reducing the Judicial Council to five (5) members with a quorum of three (3) will better reflect the current size, capacity, and operational needs of CSUN's Judicial Branch; **AND**

**WHEREAS**, Article XIV(A)(3) of the CSUN Constitution states that changes to the document “Shall not be construed to effect areas where currently serving officers and officials would be removed from office. These officers and officials shall complete their terms in office.”;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, Constitution ARTICLE VII shall reflect the amendments from ADDENDUM B.

## **ADDENDUM A**

**Should the CSUN Constitution be amended to reduce the number of Judicial Council members from 9 (nine) to 5 (five)?**

**Explanation:** The CSUN Constitution currently establishes the Judicial Council as the judicial branch of student government, composed of nine (9) voting members, and requires at least seven (7) justices to be physically present to hear cases, deliberate, or render decisions (reduced to five (5) justices for summer sessions).

This amendment proposes a structural change to reduce the number of Judicial Council members from nine (9) to five (5). In conjunction with this change, the required quorum would be reduced from seven (7) to three (3) members, including for summer sessions.

The rationale behind this proposed amendment stems from practical challenges in recruiting and retaining Judicial Council members, especially given competing academic and extracurricular responsibilities among students. Lowering the required number of members and quorum seeks to increase flexibility, reduce administrative strain, and ensure that the Judicial Council can continue to function effectively even with fewer active members.

**Argument For:** Reducing the Judicial Council from nine to five members helps address ongoing challenges with recruitment and retention. It is often difficult to find nine students willing and able to serve in such a time-intensive and often low-visibility role. Not only that, the number of cases the judicial council sees a session is minimal. By streamlining the size, CSUN can maintain a functioning judicial branch without struggling to meet quorum. Fewer members also mean quicker deliberations, less scheduling conflict, and greater administrative efficiency. Ultimately, this change would help ensure that the Council remains operational in fulfilling its duties, even during times of limited student availability.

**Argument Against:** By reducing the amount of justices, there may be a weakened diversity of representation and decision making power of the Judicial Council. A smaller membership may not provide as many varied viewpoints or allow for the same depth of discussion, especially on sensitive

or controversial cases. Additionally, with fewer members, the resignation or absence of even one justice can halt Council activity. The judicial branch exists to hold the Legislative and Executive branches accountable, and shrinking its size may diminish its institutional strength and perceived legitimacy. Maintaining a larger Council allows for broader student representation and more deliberative checks and balances.

## **ADDENDUM B**

### **CURRENT CONSTITUTION**

#### **ARTICLE VII; JUDICIAL BRANCH**

- A. Definition: The Judicial Branch of CSUN shall be the Judicial Council
- B. Composition
  - 1. The Judicial Council shall consist of nine (9) voting members
  - 2. The Judicial Council shall not hear a case, deliberate, or render any decision unless at least seven (7) justices are physically present. For judicial cases heard during the summer sessions, the requirement shall be lowered to five (5) justices (B/R2/00)
- C. The Chief Justice:
  - 1. Shall serve as the liaison between the Judicial Council and the Executive Board
  - 2. Shall preside over all Judicial Council meetings
  - 3. Shall be responsible for publicizing the agendas and maintaining the minutes of all Judicial Council meetings
  - 4. Shall be responsible for ensuring that all members of Judicial Council adhere to all bylaws, operating policies, and codes of conduct
- D. Powers and Responsibilities
  - 1. The Judicial Council:
    - i. Shall interpret the Constitution
    - ii. May decide the constitutionality of acts of or within CSUN entities when requested to do so by an Executive or Legislative Officer
    - iii. May invalidate an improperly conducted election
      - 1. The decision to invalidate an election must be rendered within one week of the election in question.
  - 2. If an election is invalidated, the Judicial Council shall order a new election consisting of no new candidates to be held on the next consecutive Wednesday and Thursday of instruction no less than five (5) CSUN business days from the judicial decision. (B/R 6/03)
    - i. Shall be responsible for ensuring due process; (B/R 2/00)
    - ii. May act as an arbitrator between CSUN members and entities of the University of Nevada System
    - iii. May consult legal counsel before rendering decisions. Funds may be encumbered for the purpose of legal consultation

#### **RECOMMENDED CHANGES**

*Additions in Green and Italicized*

~~Removals in Red and Strikethrough~~

#### **ARTICLE VII; JUDICIAL BRANCH**

- A. Definition: The Judicial Branch of CSUN shall be the Judicial Council
- B. Composition

1. The Judicial Council shall consist of nine ~~(9)~~ *five (5)* voting members
2. The Judicial Council shall not hear a case, deliberate, or render any decision unless at least *three (3)* ~~seven (7)~~ justices are *in attendance* ~~physically present~~. ~~For judicial cases heard during the summer sessions, the requirement shall be lowered to five (5) justices (B/R2/00)~~

C. The Chief Justice:

1. Shall serve as the liaison between the Judicial Council and the Executive Board
2. Shall preside over all Judicial Council meetings
3. Shall be responsible for publicizing the agendas and maintaining the minutes of all Judicial Council meetings
4. Shall be responsible for ensuring that all members of Judicial Council adhere to all bylaws, operating policies, and codes of conduct

D. Powers and Responsibilities

1. The Judicial Council:

- a. Shall interpret the Constitution
- b. May decide the constitutionality of acts of or within CSUN entities when requested to do so by an Executive or Legislative Officer
- c. May invalidate an improperly conducted election
  - i. The decision to invalidate an election must be rendered within one week of the election in question.

2. If an election is invalidated, the Judicial Council shall order a new election consisting of no new candidates to be held on the next consecutive Wednesday and Thursday of instruction no less than five (5) CSUN business days from the judicial decision. ~~(B/R-6/03)~~

- a. Shall be responsible for ensuring due process; ~~(B/R-2/00)~~
- ~~b. May act as an arbitrator between CSUN members and entities of the University of Nevada System~~
- c. May consult legal counsel before rendering decisions. Funds may be encumbered for the purpose of legal consultation

Yes, the CSUN Constitution should be amended

No, the CSUN Constitution should not be amended

---

EB 55-08, ADOPTED by the Senate on this \_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_, 2025

---

Sharon Flores, Senate President

---

Liana Wieand, Senate Secretary

EB 55-08, APPROVED on this \_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_, 2025 by

---

Kelechi Odunze, Student Body President