



**CONSOLIDATED STUDENTS
UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, LAS VEGAS**
54th Legislative Session

SENATE BILL 54-67

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CSUN CONSTITUTION

Bill Number: SB 54-67

Author of Legislation: Allister Dias, CSUN Student Body President for the 54th Executive Board
Sponsor of Legislation: CSUN Internal Affairs Committee

WHEREAS, the Consolidated Students of the University of Nevada (CSUN) represents all 25,000+ 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 the Consolidated Students of the University of Nevada 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, CSUN must actively maintain a healthy financial balance to support the ever changing needs and demands of the student population; **AND**

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED, this Legislative Bill shall serve as an act for the intention of CSUN Student Government to hold a constitutional referendum; and



THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED that the proposed questions in ADDENDUM A shall reflect as an amendment to the CSUN Constitution, and shall act as an individual referendum question.

ADDENDUM A

- 1. Should the CSUN Constitution be amended to increase the student fee by \$1.00 per student credit hour (SCH) with an annual percentage increase as defined by the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI)?**

Explanation:

Currently, the CSUN constitution permits an NSHE-approved \$1.97 per credit fee to be collected by CSUN every fiscal year. The fee is attributed on a per-credit basis, with students being charged a flat rate for every credit they enroll in per semester. Under the current fee, CSUN maintained a budget of \$1.26 million for FY25. In order to meet the current level of CSUN sponsored scholarships, grants, sponsorships, campus improvements, and other necessary costs, CSUN has needed to rely on rollover money from previous years. The ability to do so is projected to no longer be an option as of the 2025-2026 academic year. Increasing the CSUN fee by \$1.00 to \$2.97 to a budget of \$1.91 million for FY26, greatly increasing the income necessary for CSUN to meet the aforementioned demand.

Building in an annual increase as defined by the Higher Education Price Index ([HEPI](#)— an inflation index designed to track the main cost drivers in higher education, such as faculty salaries, administrative costs, and utilities.) allows for the fee to rise at the same rate as inflation, ensuring the continued solvency of CSUN's annual budget.

Prior to 2007, CSUN did not have its own fee and instead received a portion of the Student Registration Fee. In 2007 NSHE approved a \$2.47/credit fee to fund CSUN separately. Five years later, in 2012, the CSUN President and UNLV student body reduced the fee to its current amount, 1.97

adequate enough to cover operating costs, the amount, in present value, is not sufficient enough to adequately support its [CSUN] student constituents. In 2007, at the time of the fee's original passage (\$2.47/credit), UNLV had 247 Registered Student Organizations(RSOs). Though the total number of RSOs had risen to 315, during the 2012-2013 academic year, the fee was reduced by \$0.50, allowing for even less funding to support student organizations on campus. While the total number of RSOs during 2023-2024 had almost doubled to 453, the fee established 11 years ago has not risen to meet the increased need or to account for the rising cost of doing business. .



Argument For:

Increasing the per-credit fee for student government equips CSUN with a larger fiscal budget to fund scholarships, sponsorships, and student organizations—which constitutes more than 62% percent of CSUN’s current budget. Currently, UNLV boasts over 450 RSOs, with the total number expected to increase to nearly 500 in the next academic year. While CSUN is currently in capacity to support only a limited number of student organizations, the increase in RSOs over the coming years puts a larger strain on the budget. Should the fee remain in its current state, CSUN’s ability to supplement the costs of RSOs greatly decreases, putting greater financial strain to support those organizations on the student members.

Expansion of the fee broadens the capability of the CSUN budget. Creation of larger scholarship funds to serve underrepresented groups, funding for DEI education/advocacy on campus, emergency funding for student needs (i.e. affording basic necessities) allows CSUN to deepen its commitment to student success, while supporting and advocating for the changing needs of the undergraduate student body.

The current budget funds CSUN with a total amount of \$1.2 million dollars (accounting for current enrollment rates). During the 2023-2024 academic year, only 59 RSOs were granted funding, many at reduced budgets from what they requested, before RSO funding was exhausted. This is only 13% of the current number of RSOs. Without a fee increase, that percentage will continue to decrease, placing further burden on involved students to be able to afford participating in those organizations. . It also does not allow for the creation of any additional scholarships, sponsorships, grants, or other necessary funding, nor does it allow current funding of those that exist to rise with inflation.

In the 11 years since the current CSUN fee was established, inflation, as calculated by the Higher Education Price [Index](#), has risen by 36.5% but the CSUN fee has remained stagnant. Continuing to operate without adjusting for this rise will soon become untenable. With the additional funds raised through this proposed fee increase CSUN’s ability to serve the diverse UNLV undergraduate student body will be vastly improved.

Argument Against:

The recent surge in the price of goods and services has resulted in education becoming more expensive to afford, especially under current constraints like variable inflation. Every academic



year, students are required to pay per-credit student fees, to access student services throughout campus. Student government, as a campus service that provides additional services and resources to the entire campus community, is currently subject to a student fee of \$1.97 per credit hour. Considering cumulative prices of goods have increased 36.5% in the time period of the fee's inception, affordability of college attendance, the cumulative increase of fees across campus may make paying for college unattainable for many students. Any increase in student fees, even if nominal, could negatively impact low-income students, or students who are financially vulnerable to increased fees.

CURRENT CONSTITUTIONAL STATUTES

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP AND FEES

All matriculated undergraduate students of UNLV, upon payment of registration fees, shall be members of CSUN until the beginning of the following semester. A CSUN Fee, approved by the NSHE Board of Regents, of \$1.97 per credit shall be assessed for each undergraduate credit in which a student is enrolled.

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

Additions in Green and Italicized

Removals in Red and Strikethrough

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP AND FEES

All matriculated undergraduate students of UNLV, upon payment of registration fees, shall be members of CSUN until the beginning of the following semester. A CSUN Fee, approved by the NSHE Board of Regents, of ~~\$1.97~~ *\$2.97* per credit *in FY26* shall be assessed for each undergraduate credit in which a student is enrolled. *This fee shall adjust annually at a percentage established by the Higher Education Price Index.*

SB 54-67