

76th Senate

Winter Session



S.R.

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Resolution Type:
Positional

A Resolution To Enact Article XIII of the Associated Students' Constitution To Improve Financial And Governmental Stability Of Associated Students

A resolution, originally authored by Senator Ming Jun Zha brought forth by **Senator Evan Sussman** joined by **Senator Keizo Ono**, to Enact Article XIII of the Associated Students' Constitution, improving financial and governmental stability of Associated Students

Endorsed by the following student sponsors:

WHEREAS: The Associated Students at UC Santa Barbara requires each student pay \$236.00 for Fall, Winter, and Spring Quarter respectively, and \$53.00 for Summer Quarter, totaling near \$800 yearly, just for “membership” status; and,

WHEREAS: The Associated Students Senate at UCSB has unconditionally continued to add non-student service oriented lock-in and non-lock-in Boards, Commissions, and Units (BCUs) without consideration of increasing staffing or utilization of the A.S. Undesignated Account; and,

WHEREAS: This fundamental legislative negligence has drained the budget of Associated Students as reported by the [W Report On AS Longterm Financial Continuity.docx](#) , with non-lock-in BCUs requiring \$6.69 Million annually from A.S. Undesignated which only accounts for \$3.88 million in available funds for BCUs; and,

WHEREAS: According to [AS STAFF BUDGET FORECAST FY26 - FY28.pdf](#) , staff salaries paid by student fees, would alone rise to \$5.7 million to accommodate the exponential and unregulated growth

of non-lock-in BCUs, far outweighing the \$3.8 million annual AS undesignated fee which is appropriated; and,

WHEREAS: While the 76th Senate has governed with financial responsibility and fiduciary oversight at its forefront, this resolution would prevent future Senates from aimlessly and irresponsibly adding Boards, Commissions, and Units, without consideration of financial consequences; and,

WHEREAS: There needs to be a legislative balance which both allows the formation of new BCUs which demonstrate their ability to serve the student body, while simultaneously containing the financial burden that AS places on the individual student; and,

WHEREAS: The authors of the resolution believe that a balanced approach between the two goals would be to limit the Senate's ability to fund non-lock-in fee BCU creation to a term of four school years and require reauthorization thereafter; and,

WHEREAS: The constitutional amendment proposed will not apply retroactively to all Boards Commissions and Units, as passed legislation cannot change preexisting practices; and,

~~**WHEREAS:** An Associated Student's newly founded Board, Commission or Unit, would also enjoy more certainty as the amendment would strip the Senate's ability to dissolve BCUs at will~~

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Associated Students in the 76th Senate assembled Article XIII—Formation and Reauthorization of BCU would be created in the Associated Students Constitution upon an approval of the student body hereby:

ARTICLE XIII - FORMATION AND REAUTHORIZATION OF NON-LOCK-IN FEE BCU

SECTION 1. FORMATION OF NON-LOCK-IN FEE BCU

- A. The Senate may, by a two-thirds consent of its voting membership via a secret ballot, establish an Associated Student Board, Commission, or Units for no more than four school years.
- B. The Board, Commission, or Unit that is established as stated above shall go through the annual budget process after their first year of operation.

SECTION 2. REAUTHORIZATION OF NON-LOCK-IN FEE BCU

- A. The Senate may, by a simple majority via a secret ballot, reauthorize an existing Associated Student Board, Commission, and Unit for no more than

four school years. This reauthorization can be done unlimited times after the prior authorization expires.

B. The BCU reauthorized through the method in clause A shall be budgeted during the annual budget process.

C. The reauthorization of the existing Board, Commission, and Units shall start in the ~~2029-2030~~2028-2029 school year and be completed by the ~~2031-2032~~2030-2031 school year.

SECTION 3. LOCK-IN FEE BCU

A. Associated Students Board, Commission, and Units that receive a lock-in fee via the ballot affirmation process shall be exempt from all requirements in Article XIII.

SECTION 4. CONTINUITY OF LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

A. This article shall not be construed to limit in any way the Senate's authority to regulate or disband BCUs.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Associated Students in the 76th Senate assembled, the following clauses will be amended in the Associated Students' Constitution following a two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) affirmative vote with at least (20%) of the Associated Students' Membership voting.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Associated Students in the 76th Senate assembled, all preexisting BCUs shall not have to forgo this process, and shall be exempt from reauthorization requirements .

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED by the Associated Students in the 76th Senate assembled, the following language be brought forth to the 2026 Spring ballot

Do you support enacting Article XIII of the ASUCSB Constitution to limit the Associated Students Senate's power to create a new non-lock-in fee BCU to four years, and mandate the Associated Students to provide an appropriate operational budget for the BCU established, and protection against dissolution, through the means in Article XIII?

A "YES" vote will enact Article XIII of the ASUCSB Constitution to limit the Associated Students Senate's power to create a new non-lock-in fee BCU to four years, and mandate the Associated Students to provide an appropriate operational budget for the BCU established, ~~and protection against dissolution,~~ through the means in Article XIII.

Lock-in fee BCUs will not be affected by this amendment.

A "NO" vote will maintain the current Constitution and will not enact Article XIII of the ASUCSB Constitution.

Yes

No

Legislation introduced on the xth of February, 2026.