



**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 26,000+ 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 allow for a revision in the CSUN Student Association Fee from \$1.97 to \$2.97 per undergraduate credit hour in 2025-2026 and then to permit the Student Body President, with the approval of the Senate, to request a revision to the fee each year thereafter in an amount no more than the equivalent of the most recent Higher Education Price Index percentage available, and in no event exceed six percent, in alignment with NSHE's Predictable Pricing Program?**

### **Explanation:**

Currently, the CSUN constitution permits an NSHE-approved \$1.97 per undergraduate 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 maintains a budget of \$1.26 million for 2024-2025. 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 2025-2026, greatly increases the income necessary for CSUN to meet the aforementioned demand.

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 separate \$2.47 per undergraduate credit fee to fund CSUN. Five years later, in 2012, the CSUN President and UNLV student body reduced the fee to its current amount, 1.97 per undergraduate credit fee. While the current fee was previously 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 per undergraduate 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.

The Nevada System of Higher Education currently follows a system known as the Predictive Pricing Program (NSHE Handbook Title 4, Chapter 17, Section 1.2) by which tuition fees are increased annually at the most recent percentage as defined by the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) - an inflation index tied to the cost of higher education. Building in this annual process allows for the fee to rise at the same rate as inflation, ensuring the continued solvency of CSUN's annual budget.

### **Argument For:**

Increasing the per undergraduate credit fee for student government equips CSUN with a larger fiscal budget to fund scholarships, sponsorships, and student organizations—which constitutes more than 62% 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), etc., 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 undergraduate 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 undergraduate 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**

- A. 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.
- B. A committee review of the CSUN Fee shall be required when the total expected CSUN budget exceeds \$1,500,000. The committee shall be comprised of the Vice President of Student Affairs, the Student Body President, and five (5) CSUN members.

### ***RECOMMENDED CHANGES***

#### ***Additions in Green and Italicized***

#### ***Removals in Red and Strikethrough***

#### **ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP AND FEES**

- A. All matriculated undergraduate students of UNLV, upon payment of registration fees, shall be members of CSUN until the beginning of the following semester.
- B. A CSUN *Student Association* Fee, approved by the NSHE Board of Regents, of ~~\$1.97~~ *\$2.97* per credit shall be assessed for each undergraduate credit in which a student is enrolled, beginning in the fall semester of the 2025-2026 academic year.
  - 1. Each academic year, beginning in 2025-2026, CSUN will either submit a timely request to the NSHE Board of Regents to revise the Student Association Fee in alignment with the NSHE Predictable Pricing Program's calculation of Registration Fee revisions, as outlined in the NSHE Board of Regents Handbook, or publish on its website that no revision to the fee will be requested.*
    - i. The decision to pursue an increase to the CSUN Student Association Fee shall originate from the President with approval of the Senate.*
    - ii. Any proposed revision to the CSUN Student Association Fee shall not increase more than the equivalent of the most recent Higher Education Price Index percentage available, and in no event exceed six percent.*
    - iii. The fee revision will be effective the fall semester following approval of the Student Association Fee by the Board of Regents.*

2. *The CSUN Student Association Fee shall be published in a prominent location on the CSUN website for the current semester, and for any future semesters approved for revision by the Board of Regents.*
3. *The President is required to meet with the Vice President of Student Affairs at the beginning of each fall semester regarding the status of the CSUN Student Association Fee. This must occur prior to any fee adjustment requests proposed to the Board of Regents. ~~A committee review of the CSUN Fee shall be required when the total expected CSUN budget exceeds \$1,500,000. The committee shall be comprised of the Vice President of Student Affairs, the President, and five (5) CSUN members.~~*

**SB 54-67, ADOPTED** by the Senate on this \_\_\_ Day of \_\_\_, 20\_\_

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Christian Abbo, Senate President

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NAME, Senate Secretary



SB 54-67, APPROVED on this \_\_ Day of \_\_, 20\_\_ by

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Allister Dias, Student Body President