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4 *ASG Senate Bill No. 12*

5 Author(s): Senator Jack Switzer, Open Access Resources Director Avery Hasten

6 Sponsor(s): Senator Kathleen Bridgforth

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8 **A Funding Bill to Support Open Education Resources at the University**  
9 **of Arkansas**

10 Whereas, Each year, undergraduate students spend on average \$1,200  
11 on textbooks and educational resources. Students must  
12 purchase expensive textbooks that they will use for one  
13 semester then never use again.

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15 Whereas, The University of Arkansas has created the Open Education  
16 Department through the university libraries to combat high  
17 textbook costs for students. The Associated Student  
18 Government has been a champion in this effort to save  
19 students money. The current department is underfunded  
20 and cannot meet the demand of new OER projects.

21  
22 Whereas, Open Education Resources have created large savings for the  
23 students thus far. OER efforts from previous years has  
24 resulted in 4494 students using OER between 21 courses.  
25 University of Arkansas students have saved over \$449,000  
26 in textbook costs during the 2020-2021 academic year.

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28 Be it therefore resolved: The Associated Student Government Senate  
29 should allocate \$24,400 from the Registered  
30 Student Organization Budget and \$8,755 from  
31 the Senate Allocations Budget towards funding  
32 the general account of the Open Education  
33 Resources Department. The total allocated  
34 funding will be equal to \$33,155; and

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36 Be it further resolved: The funding provided to the Open Education  
37 Resources Department will be used at their  
38 discretion towards continuing projects related  
39 to the projects of the Open Education  
40 Resources Department. The funding will allow  
41 for all Spring 2021 Open Education Resource  
42 projects to be funded.

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Be it further resolved: All excess funds will be reallocated back to the Registered Student Organization Allocations Budget.

Be it finally resolved: A copy of this bill be sent to Elaine Thorton, Librarian of Education and Lynda Coon, Interim Dean of Libraries.

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Amendments: \_\_\_\_\_

Vote Count: Aye 35 Nay 0 Abstentions 4

Legislation Status: Passed X Failed \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
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Caleb Parker, ASG Chair of the Senate

4/21/2021  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Julia Nall, ASG President

4/21/2021  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date