**Associated Student Government**

*University of Arkansas*

*ASG Senate Bill No. 7*

Authors: Senator Katie Gardner, Senator Will Moore, Director of Sustainability Will Motazedi, Director of Student Safety Maria Calderon, Deputy Director of Student Safety Lexi Robertson

Sponsors: Senator Darynne Dahlem, Senator Austin Martin, Senator Kendall Perkins, Senator Hope Davenport, Senator Lizeth Martinez, Senator Kevin Tran

**A Bill Funding Programming for Helmet Safety**

Whereas, The University of Arkansas encourages biking, offering free bicycle permits, bike share resources, and storage racks on campus to promote healthy living, environmentally friendly practices, and decrease traffic and parking congestion on campus.

Whereas, The University of Arkansas began a partnership with VeoRide in 2018. This brought over 300 bikes to campus and surrounding neighborhoods. Given the new Oak Ridge biking trails on south campus, combined with existing biking trial networks across Northwest Arkansas, increasing awareness for safe utilization of these resources is paramount.

Whereas, The CDC cites nearly 1,000 deaths nationwide each year from injuries caused by bicycle crashes and 550,000 emergency department visit injuries, with head injuries being the cause of 62% of deaths, 33% of emergency department visits, and 67% of hospital admissions.

Whereas, Scooter safety is also important, as scooters are a popular form of transportation amongst students with UA Transit and Parking issuing 695 permits in the 2018-2019 school year.

Whereas, The Pangburn Safety Awareness Act of 2016 honored the life of Razorback student Cole Pangburn who lost his life in a scooter accident while not wearing a helmet and reinforced helmet regulations on campus.

Whereas, The NHTSA and CDC provide numerous resources for safety education that reaffirms the importance of helmet safety, citing lives lost due to injuries that could have been prevented by riders wearing helmets.

Be it therefore resolved: The Associated Student Government Senate serves as the voice of the student body, and finds it appropriate to provide financing through ASG Senate to help fund Bicycle Safety Promotion during Safety Week through the purchase of a helmet to give away during the “Helmets Are Sexy” campaign.

Be it further resolved: The Associated Student Government Senate allocates $75 from the Senate Legislative Allocations Budget (LS-Prog) for the purchase of two helmets (one bicycle helmet and one moped helmet) for the “Helmets are Sexy” event to be held during Safety Week of 2019 on the Union Mall during tabling activities. The appropriate ASG agents work with the vendor to ensure that the students receiving the helmets are allowed to select the helmet of their choosing. All funds not used will be allocated back to the ASG Senate (LS-Prog); and

Be it further and finally resolved: The University of Arkansas Associated Student Government openly encourages the student body to practice responsible bicycling on local trails. The approval of these funds allows the Associated Student Government Senate to raise awareness and promote healthy and safe lifestyles for the University of Arkansas student body.

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Amendments:

Vote Count: Aye Nay 0 Abstentions

Legislation Status: Passed Failed Other

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Colman Betler, ASG Chair of the Senate Date

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J.P. Gairhan, ASG President Date

<https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/00036941.htm>