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4 *ASG Senate Bill No. 8*

5 Authors: Parliamentarian Jackson Terrell, Senator TJ Collins

6 Sponsors: Senator Natalie Collins, Senator Mary Eichenberger, Senator Brandon
7 Gibbins, Senator Alex Kennington, Senator Logan Martin, Senator Ky
8 Mengler, Senator James Morningstar

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10 **The Senate Research Committee Reform Act of 2023**

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12 Whereas, The Senate Research Committee was created to inform
13 senate legislation through tabling and feedback gathering
14 activities; and

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16 Whereas, The current Research Committee has been undergoing a trial
17 period during the 2022-2023 Senate; and

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19 Whereas, The orderly operation of the Senate Research Committee
20 would allow the Senate to remain in touch with the evolving
21 needs of the Student Body, and to better fulfill our oaths to
22 the students which we represent.

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24 Be it therefore resolved: The Research Committee of the Senate will be
25 established as a Standing Committee of the
26 Senate. Members will be appointed to
27 committees in accordance with the methods
28 used for other committee assignments by the
29 Chair of Senate.

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31 Be it further resolved: The Research Committee, as a Standing
32 Committee of the Senate, will have powers to
33 investigate issues pressing to the student body,
34 fulfilling the role of the Senate to represent the
35 “common interests” of the student body, as
36 outlined by the Senatorial Oath.

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38 Be it further resolved: The Senate Pro Tempore will serve as the Chair
39 of Research Committee and will be accountable
40 to the Chair of Senate for its operations,
41 including the orderly and punctual
42 submissions of committee reports.

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Be it further resolved:

The Chair of Research Committee will convene the committee to meet at the regularly appointed time for committees on the day of the last Senate meeting of each month, except January, and May, for the purposes of deciding the topic for Research Committee for the following month.

Be it further resolved:

The Chair of Research Committee will report to the Senate, on the last meeting of each month, the topic for the following month, as well as the questions which will be included in the survey for that month.

Be it further resolved:

The Chair of Research Committee, along with two general committee members, will author a report of the feedback from that month's tabling and present it to the research committee for approval during the next month's meeting. Upon approval by a simple majority, the Chair of Research Committee will deliver the report to the Chair of Senate who will distribute it to the whole body of the Senate.

Be it further resolved:

The Chair of Research Committee may, at their discretion, choose a member of the committee to take the lead on the month's activities should they feel that they themselves are less qualified to lead on that topic. This member would be in charge of formulating the questions for the tabling survey, though the Chair still administrate for the committee during the month.

Be it further resolved:

Each member of the research committee will fulfill a singular hour of tabling at a time and place agreed upon by the Research Committee

83 and approved by the Chair of Senate each
84 month.
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86 Be it further resolved: If a member of the research committee has an
87 unavoidable conflict with the times scheduled
88 for tabling, that member may discuss an
89 appropriate task, such as assisting in the
90 authorship of the monthly report, that will
91 replace it.
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93 Be it further resolved: Failure of a member of the research committee
94 to complete either the mandatory required
95 tabling or office hour, or a failure to be present
96 at a committee meeting without an excuse
97 being presented to the Chair of Senate, will
98 result in a half absence, in line with similar
99 penalties for other committees. A member may
100 only be penalized one half absence from the
101 required research committee duties per month.
102 This does not apply to an unexcused absence
103 from a committee meeting, which will always
104 result in a half absence.
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106 Be it further resolved: Any Senator will have the ability to ask the
107 Chair of Research Committee to table alongside
108 committee members for any given month but
109 will not be held accountable to the same office
110 hour and tabling requirement. Additionally,
111 any Senator can propose any question to be
112 considered as part of the monthly tabling
113 survey.
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115 Be it further resolved: If approved by the Senate, Chair of Senate, and
116 President of ASG, these reforms would take
117 effect with the seating of the 2023-2024
118 Senate.
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120 Be it further resolved: The preceding “resolved” clauses be added to
121 the ASG code between Title II Sections 14 and
122 15 as Title II Section 15 “Senate Research
123 Committee” Points A-L.

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125 Be it further resolved: The Associated Student Government Code Title
126 II Section 5 be amended between point B and
127 point D to read “The Senate Pro Tempore shall
128 be the Chair of the Senate Research
129 Committee.”


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131 Be it finally resolved: A copy of this bill be sent to Chief Justice Anna
132 Roach.

133 *Official Use Only*


134
135 Amendments: _____

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137 Vote Count: Aye 36 Nay 0 Abstentions 3

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139 Legislation Status: **Passed** Failed Other

140  _____ 2-22-23
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142 Gabrielle Gies, ASG Chair of the Senate Date

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144  _____ 2-22-23
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146 Lauren Loftin, ASG President Date