

**West Virginia University  
Student Government Association  
Student Assembly Meeting  
Vandalia Lounge, Mountainlair, 7:30 PM  
January 18th, 2023  
2022-2023 Hernandez-Uqaily Administration**

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Pareera Uqaily at 7:30 p.m.

**II. Reading of the SGA Mission Statement**

The SGA Mission Statement was read by Vice President Pareera Uqaily.

**III. Roll Call**

Roll was called by Executive Secretary Donate

President Pro Tempore Khan- Present

Senator Amores- Present

College Senator Azinger- Present

College Senator Blair- Present

College Senator Cahill- Excused

Senator Chennuru- Present

College Senator Clark- Excused

Senator Conner- Present

College Senator Donner- Absent

College Senator Dozier- Present

College Senator Dysart- Present

College Senator Escue- Excused

College Senator Griffith- Present

College Senator Guschel- Present

Senator Hodges- Present

College Senator Hudson- Present

College Senator Irfan- Present

Senator Jones- Present

College Senator Madden- Present  
College Senator Marquart- Excused  
College Senator McMillen- Absent  
College Senator Milam- Present  
Senator Miller- Present  
College Senator Mitchell- Present  
College Senator Moore- Present  
College Senator Neiswonger- Excused  
College Senator Oursler- Present  
College Senator Patel- Present  
College Senator Phillips- Present  
Senator Price- Present  
College Senator Risk- Present  
Senator SantMyer- Excused  
College Senator Schwartzmiller- Excused  
College Senator Tabidze- Present  
Senator Uqaily- Present  
Senator Volk- Present  
Senator Whalen- Present  
College Senator Wooten- Present  
College Senator Zoglio- Excused

*Vice President Uqaily:* We do not have quorum.

- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting until quorum is met via voice vote.
- President Pro Tempore Khan moved to adjourn the meeting until 7:35 p.m. via voice vote.
- The motion to adjourn the meeting until 7:35 p.m was seconded by College Senator Hudson.
- The ayes have it. The meeting was adjourned until quorum was met.  
Roll was called by Executive Secretary Donate.

#### **IV. Reading and Approval of the Agenda**

- President Pro Tempore Khan moved to amend the agenda by adding a sixth agenda item titled “Presentation from Travis Mollohan with WVU Government Relations” via unanimous consent.
- The motion to amend the agenda by adding a sixth agenda item titled “Presentation from Travis Mollohan with WVU Government Relations” was seconded by College Senator Oursler.

*President Pro Tempore Khan:* Travis is the Director of Government Relations for the university. He's been generous enough to join tonight to make brief remarks about what's in Senate Bill 10, which is the campus carry legislation. He will also be willing to answer some questions from the Assembly about the impacts of the bill and what exactly is in it. President Pro Tempore Khan would like to allow Travis to do that earlier in the meeting, so he doesn't have to stick around too long. That is what the motion is for.

*Vice President Uqaily:* Will entertain any discussion on this amendment? Seeing none.

- There were no objections, and the agenda was amended.
- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to approve the agenda via unanimous consent.
- Senator Price moved to approve the agenda via unanimous consent.
- The motion to approve the agenda was seconded by Senator Conner.
- There were no objections, and the agenda was approved.

#### **V. Reading and Approval of the Minutes**

The motion to approve the minutes was entertained by College Senator Oursler.

The motion to approve the minutes was seconded by College Senator Dozier.

There were no objections, and the minutes were approved.

#### **VI. Presentation from Travis Mollohan with WVU Government Relations**

*Travis Mollohan:* Thank you all so much for allowing Travis to join you tonight. He is happy to answer any questions. He just wanted to make some brief comments and update everyone about the campus carry legislation and what some of the next steps are. Earlier today, the Senate Judiciary Committee in the State Senate met. Rob Alsop, WVU's Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, was present, seeking and answering questions on behalf of the university. Other staff from WVU and representatives from Marshall University were in the room as well. The legislation passed pretty quickly, with, Travis believes, one dissenting vote on a

voice vote. That bill now heads to the floor of the State Senate. He suspects that it will be up for final passage in the State Senate probably on Monday or Tuesday and head to the House of Delegates.

A rundown of what's in the bill. President Gee's united letter with President Brad Smith of Marshall University has been posted on social media and shared via email to different folks at the university and has a rundown of what's currently in the bill. The first thing is that the implementation date of this legislation was amended in the committee. The implementation will not be until July 1st, 2024, giving the university about a year and a half, if the bill ultimately passes the legislature, to implement any changes and educate students, faculty, staff, families, and the community about what's coming on campus. That is a very important aspect of the legislation that Travis wants everyone to understand.

Specifically, what the legislation does. For years in West Virginia, like other states, the ability to permit guns on campus was left up to the boards of governors. Every board of governors at all the higher education institutions had policies to keep guns off campus. When a student, faculty member, staff member, or community member was found on campus with a gun, usually what university police would do was simply ask them to leave. If they would not leave, then they could be arrested for trespassing, which is a misdemeanor. One of the things that this bill changes is that it allows concealed carry only. That is someone who is an adult, 18 or over, who has been through, Travis thinks, an NRA certified training course, has passed a background check, and has applied from a county sheriff to carry a concealed weapon on campus. It cannot be open carry, it cannot be brandished in a certain way, it would have to be concealed on campus. If they violate any of those restrictions, they could be arrested and charged with a felony.

Specific areas of campus that would be restricted. Venues or arenas with a capacity of more than 1,000 spectators. This would include all of the athletic facilities, such as the stadium, the Coliseum, etc. The university's daycare facility. Any secure area of any building that's used by law enforcement, such as university police or different areas of campus that might have a law enforcement presence. Areas where public colleges and universities have implemented adequate security measures. What the bill contemplates to be an adequate security measure would be a metal detector, wands, armed guards, etc. This would mean that anywhere an officer or metal detector was put in order to scan folks entering to make sure that they don't have a gun, would be off limits for guns if the university chose to do that. Specifically, one of the ideas behind this provision is that for certain concerts or activities, universities would be able to decide whether

or not they want concealed carry holders to have a gun on them. Places where a disciplinary hearing is taking place. Workshops, laboratories with highly hazardous flammable substances, animal laboratories, anywhere with nuclear waste at the research facility, etc. would be off limits. Any place where patient care or mental health counseling is taking place. Any areas used exclusively by public K-12 or private entities. If a private organization rents or uses a room at the Mountainlair, that would be off limits for concealed carry. If there is a tour going on, and those folks are in certain areas or certain rooms, the university could keep guns out of those areas, because there would be students from the K-12 system on campus. Areas where state and federal law already prohibit firearms. Individual offices for faculty or staff, described as a room with four walls, so it would allow the ability for folks to keep guns out of their office if they choose. It would not stop a faculty member or staff member in their office from carrying however, if they so choose, but it would allow folks, if they so choose, to keep them out.

Guns would not be permitted in the residence halls, except for specific common areas, like lounges, dining halls, and study areas. One of the contemplations in the bills with regard to residence halls is that there may be either a designated space or room in a residence hall where secure lockers will be provided, or safes or a secure lockers which could be either rented or purchased, in which a student could keep their gun in in their room. As mentioned, the implementation date changed to July 1st, 2024.

This has passed the Senate Judiciary Committee, and Travis suspects it will pass overwhelmingly in the Senate early next week, and then go to the House, where he also suspects it will pass overwhelmingly. He does not know what the timing will be in the House of Delegates. What normally occurs in the legislative process is that a bill from the Senate side is not considered in the House until later in session. Same thing for a House bill going to the Senate, it is not usually considered until later in the session. But a bill that has moved and passed this fast could easily pass the House in the next week or two. Travis and others will watch and report back to campus.

*Senator Miller:* West Virginia is a Constitutional Carry state. Are there any provisions in the law that says that to carry on campus specifically you have to have a permit, or will the Constitutional Carry law carry over?

*Travis Mollohan:* The Constitutional Carry would not count. Just like open carry would not. The legislation contemplates only allowing concealed carry license holders to carry on a college campus.

*College Senator Hudson:* Question regarding enforcement. Assuming that Senate Bill 10 would pass in its current form, with the outline Best Practices, suggested by President Gee and President Smith, could you comment on how WVU would address actually enforcing some of these restrictions. It's easy to outline that they would not be allowed in certain places, but it was seen even with COVID that enforcement was an issue, in just getting people to put clothes over their face in certain areas and in being able to distinguish what is patient care versus what is not patient care and so forth in other areas. What would the university be able to do to actually intervene and figure out how these guns are being potentially harbored in areas when they're not supposed to?

*Travis Mollohan:* The implementation date is really important, as it gives more time to educate the campus, community, incoming students, and families about the changes. The bill doesn't set out any specific guidelines. It sets specific areas which are off limits. The university can do a number of things. All of these ideas and choices are way above Travis' paygrade, but very generally, there could be signs placed in certain buildings or rooms saying that guns are not permitted. Individual office holders could put up a sign, or the university could put up a sign for them. They could use the adequate security measures that the bill provides to make certain areas of campus off limits. That is going to cost a significant amount of money, if additional police officers, metal detectors, wands, etc. are purchased and used. That would have to be a decision made by the administration. Travis does think that there are a lot of avenues that the bill grants to the individual colleges and universities who adapt to it in their own way. He also thinks that there will be a lot of emphasis on, not just educating, but providing some of notice, onboarding documents, etc. to students, families, and employees about the areas of campus that the bill contemplates that are off limits. So as the bill is potentially passed over the next few weeks, once that happens, Travis suspects the university will begin to put together some guidance and work with stakeholders, from the student government, from the student body, from staff, from faculty, and from the community, to begin to educate and try to figure out how to implement these changes.

*Vice President Uqaily:* Thank you so much Travis, for taking time out to be here today.

- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to add College Senator Moore to the roll via unanimous consent.
- The motion to add College Senator Moore to the roll via unanimous consent was moved by College Senator Dozier.

- The motion to add College Senator Moore to the roll was seconded by College Senator Oursler.
- There were no objections, and College Senator Moore was added to the roll.

## VII. Open Student Forum I

*Vice President Uqaily:* For those of you who are new here, Open Student Forum is a great opportunity to be recognized if there is something you would like to bring to SGA's attention.

## VIII. The President's Report

*Vice President Uqaily:* Madam President could not be here today. Vice President Uqaily requests that everyone wish President Hernandez good luck on her MCAT whenever they get some time. Vice President Uqaily will be giving her report on her behalf.

President Hernandez had a meeting with the Eberly dean's in December regarding the Stem Foundation courses. Some of the main action items from that meeting were standardizing syllabi across STEM courses and the open syllabi initiative that President Hernandez and Vice President Uqaily are working on may be utilized in that as well. They're working on forming an advisory committee of various students who have taken multiple STEM classes with a higher fail rate, to see what can be done better to address some of those concerns.

President Hernandez also had a Board of Governors meeting in December, right before Christmas break. It was a short meeting, and there wasn't much concerning the students. The next meeting will be February 16th and 17th. If you have anything that you would like to bring to her attention, please let her know.

Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey and Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler may have more with regards to the topic which Travis just discussed, but President Hernandez, President Pro Tempore Khan, Senator Conner, and both legislative affairs were present on a call earlier this week to discuss Senate Bill 10, which regards open carry.

“Dedicate yourselves to a core set of values. Without them, you will never be able to find personal fulfillment, and you will never be able to lead effectively”  
- Kenneth Chenault



## IX. Assembly Reports

*College Senator Dozier:* College Senator Dozier has been working with Treasurer Daniel in trying to get funding for discounted Lyft and Uber rides at certain hours of the night to cut back on people feeling like they need to drive intoxicated. They met with Pitt over retreat, who had a rideshare service that helps with their sexual assault prevention program. Please reach out to College Senator Dozier if you are interested in helping or have any ideas. They are working on incorporating it in some way with Day of Giving.

*College Senator Oursler:* Today, College Senator Oursler met with the director for roads and grounds and the person who sources their plant material. College Senator Oursler and Dr. Verlinden are going to be growing 750 plants for campus landscaping, all native plants, which came from his pollinator legislation. The Sustainable Landscaping Committee is being formed this semester also due to the pollinator legislation. They get to choose whatever plants they want to grow, and they're going to be used in projects to help increase pollinator habitat on campus decided by this landscaping committee. If there's anything you want to see, or any gardens or anything on campus that you'd like, please let College Senator Oursler know.

Since December, the Davis College has now hired the graduate student to run the composting program. Her name is Tiffany. She's been with the university for over 10 years, on and off getting her PhD. She is very reliable and knowledgeable in the subject. She is currently working on the composting course right now which will be taught in the fall. If anybody has any questions relating to either of those two topics, let College Senator Oursler know because things are moving on both fronts pretty quickly.

*College Senator Hudson:* Some updates at HSC from some initiatives that the senators have been working on. They met with Sarah before the end of last semester about getting study spaces incorporated on Health Sciences, in addition to those at the Evansdale campus and the downtown library. They currently have four stationary exercise bikes placed on the ground floor at Health Sciences, and they've been working with Kathy Patterson of facilities and with Dr. Marshall's office, to see different ways that they can incorporate mixed-use study spaces, whether that's with yoga balls, or any other potential equipment that can be included. This is part of an initiative that was started by several other senators on downtown. They wanted to see that extended to Health Sciences, and Dr. Marsh's office is really supportive of this and any future efforts that can be done in regard to improving



mental health and student activity of the student experience. Really excited about this and hoping to keep working to increase these spaces for the students.

*Vice President Uqaily:* It was lovely seeing all of you outside of the Mountainlair and Evansdale Crossing this weekend. Hope you all had a great time and that everyone returned with some fresh perspectives and new energy and motivation. The link for the December and January combined monthly report is in the drive. Feel free to do that whenever. Will make sure to send it in the group chat and via email as well.

President Hernandez and Vice President Uqaily will be meeting with the Faculty Senate next Monday, with their executive committee next Monday and then a fortnight after that, with the Faculty Senate. If there is anything you would like to bring to their attention, please let either of them know. Vice President Uqaily is working with the international students on campus and the Graduate Professional Student Senate to work to enhance their student experience. If anyone is interested in helping out with that, please let her know.

## **X. Committee Reports**

*Senator Conner:* The Government Relations Committee is going to meet at 3pm on Wednesdays in the Potomac room this semester. For anybody that didn't have the chance to come out last semester, there's always still that option. A lot of what they will be delving into in the next several weeks is West Virginia's State Legislature session. If you have any questions about that, feel free to come to the committee or hop in the group chat and ask any questions. The legislative affairs liaisons are also very versed in the topic and are always there for you too.

*College Senator Wooten:* The Community Engagement Committee will be meeting from 6pm to 7pm on Thursdays in the Bluestone room this semester. Big meeting tomorrow, first one of the semester, and there will be plenty to talk about.

*College Senator Milam:* Reporting on behalf of College Senator Cahill. The Sexual Assault Prevention Committee is meeting tomorrow at 5:30pm over Zoom. Meetings from now on will be alternating every other Tuesday and Thursday. This week is Thursday and next week is Tuesday, also at 5:30pm. Would like to encourage everyone to attend. Want to remind everyone that everyone said that one of the top priorities for this year was sexual assault prevention, so with more-or-less only four members consistently attending meetings, it has been kind of difficult to do a lot of things. Planning on working with WVU Believe Them more this semester and sometimes combining Tuesday meetings as well.

*Senator Price:* The Student Experience Committee is meeting every Tuesday at 5pm in

the Mountain room and on Zoom. Feel free to come in person or on Zoom.

A couple things that are currently in progress. Over break, Senator Price and Senator Jones met with a few administrators in the Provost office to talk about the student academic advisory board. The applications are under development and they talked about a timeline in committee, but are hoping to get that application out in the next two weeks or so, so it's being kind of finalized right now. Also going to soon start planning the next Accessibility and Safety Walk for the spring semester. If you have any suggestions or ideas of areas to look into or cover, please feel free to let Senator Price, College Senator Azinger, Senator Santmyer, or Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator Elswick know. If you would like to hear more about what the committee is doing this semester, feel free to attend meetings. If you have anything else student experience related, you know who to call.

*Senator Chennuru:* Reporting on behalf of the Mental Health and Wellbeing Committee. Committee meetings for the semester will be on Thursdays at 6pm in the SGA conference room, and the first one will be tomorrow. Go out if you are interested.

## **XI. Executive Reports**

*Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Coordinator Elswick:* Quick update about the implicit bias training that is in the works of being scheduled. Just sent the email today, so they will give you an update on that. It will most likely be during the informal meeting in February but things could change.

Some quick org updates. The Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is hosting a Club Unity event, co-hosted by the Asian Student Association to celebrate the Chinese New Year. That will be on January 26th at 6pm in the Mountainlair games area. The Center for Black Culture and Research is still accepting Black Film Festival submissions until February 10th. The Women's Resource Center is having three seminars on dating and relationships on February 9th at 10am, 2pm, and 5pm. They are all in different locations. Two will be in the Shenandoah room upstairs and around the hall, and one will be in the Laurel Room, but all of the details are posted on social media.

The LGBTQ+ Center has a lot going on. Tomorrow, they're having a Legislative Updates event with Fairness West Virginia to talk about LGBTQ+ rights in West Virginia from 6 to 7pm on Zoom. Participants must register in advance. They're having a Queer Book Club for the spring of 2023. The first meeting will be at 5:30pm at Maple house. It didn't say a day so they will get that

updated. On January 26th, there will be a Graduate Student Game Night at the LGBTQ+ Center, the Maple House, from 6pm to 8pm. On February 2nd, they are having an LGBTQ+ workshop called “Coming out to My Christian Family” from 1pm to 2:30pm at the Maple House. All of these events require registration, but you can go on their social media, their Twitter account, or their website to do so.

*Attorney General Long:* Had an information session which went really well. Thank you to all who attended. Would like to talk a little bit about Robert’s Rules to set the groundwork for the semester, and talked a little bit about it in the chat as well. When you want to explain a piece of legislation, there always has to be a motion. When you are in discussion on a piece of legislation, if you want to end discussion and vote, you have to move to the previous question, in which Vice President Uqaily will then entertain a motion to vote. Those are two separate motions and cannot be done at the same time.

To go over privileged motions again really quickly. Points of order are for when there is something wrong with the order of the meeting or when there is something that you need to bring Vice President Uqaily’s attention to. Point of information is for when you are requesting information. Point of privilege is for if you need someone to speak louder, turn on their mic, or something of that nature.

Reminder of the attendance policy. Only want to be missing under extenuating circumstances that cannot be controlled. Make sure to email Vice President Uqaily, Attorney General Long, and Executive Secretary Donate for that.

The filing deadline for the upcoming spring 2023 election is next Thursday, a week and day from today, at 11:59pm. If you are interested please get that in in a timely manner, and let Attorney General Long know if you need the link. In regard to running in this election, Attorney General Long recommends that those not returning next year find someone to take on their spot and carry on the legacy.

Some election wisdom. Have had a great fall, and Attorney General Long wants to have an even better spring. Elections are fun and he is looking forward to this election. It is also not everything, and everyone needs to remember why they are here. Everyone has formed so many great bonds with each other and gotten so many things done, especially at the retreat, where everyone came up with so many great ideas and it was discussed that everyone loved the discussion and camaraderie over this year. Would like to see that continue and for everyone to be mindful of that while entering election season.

*Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler:* It's been a long while and a lot has happened, so Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler cannot cover everything. She had gone over the House and Senate leadership, but at the time the Republican party did not have their majority leaders out. In the House leadership, the speaker is Roger Hanshaw, the majority leader is Eric Householder, the majority whip is Marty Gearheart, the minority leader is Doug Skaff, and the minority whip is Shawn Fluharty. In the Senate leadership, the president is Craig Blair, the majority leader is Tom Takubo, the majority whip is Ryan Weld, the minority leader is Mike Woelfel, and the minority whip is Robert Plymale.

It has been officially one week since the start of session of the 86th West Virginia Legislature. They have introduced thousands of bills already, in topics ranging from increasing/decreasing/modifying the Promise scholarship or adding other scholarships, referencing mental health of college students specifically, discussion of Critical Race Theory and divisive topics ranging based on legislation, different voting and making it more accessible, vaccines and immunizations, keeping folks that work in critical fields (nursing, teaching, etc.) in the state, barring TikTok on government devices, and firearms including the campus carry bill touched on early. Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey and Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler are standing with the student government leadership, faculty senate, and university leadership in opposition to this bill. If anyone has any questions about this, the bills talked about, or anything else, feel free to reach out. Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler spends more time than she would like to admit looking over the West Virginia Legislature.

WVU Day is on January 31st. Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey and Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler, and she is sure a couple others, will be going down to the legislature to advocate for students. In terms of the Morgantown City Government, there are four Morgantown city council positions that are open for the April election. Applications are accepted until February 13th. If you know anyone who could be a good candidate, tell them to apply.

Will not say much on the federal level, because there is so much happening. However, the one notable thing that many saw was that the election for House Speaker took fifteen separate votes, the most since the 1800's. Kevin McCarthy ended up becoming the U.S. House speaker.

## **XII. Old Business**

### **XIII. New Business**

#### **A. AP-2023-01-01**

*President Pro Tempore Khan:* Point of privilege to give Travis a round of applause for joining and for all of his hard work tonight.

- President Pro Tempore Khan moved to explain AP-2023-01-01 in lieu of having it read via voice vote.
- The motion to explain AP-2023-01-01 in lieu of having it read was seconded by College Senator Dozier.
- The ayes unanimously have it. AP-2023-01-01 was approved to be explained.

*President Pro Tempore Khan:* This proclamation relates to the bill that Travis talked about earlier and presented on, which is Senate Bill 10. What this proclamation would do would be to formally oppose that legislation as a student government. To walk through a little bit of what the legislation says. It outlines that this is in opposition to Senate Bill 10, which is the campus self-defense act, which contains provisions which would eliminate the authority of institutional boards of governors to restrict or regulate the carrying of concealed pistols or revolvers in certain circumstances or areas of an institution of higher education. It is very important to note that Senate Bill 10 does contain provisions which would create exceptions to concealed carry on higher education campuses, which include an organized event taking place in a stadium or arena with a capacity of more than 1,000 spectators, at a daycare facility located on the property of the state institution of higher education, at the specific location of a formal disciplinary or grievance hearing for a student or employee of a state of higher education taking place on the campus and in the buildings of the state institution of higher education, specifically designated areas in which patient care or mental health counseling is being provided, in on-campus residence halls, except in common areas such as lounges, dining areas, and study areas, as well as some other exceptions.

It also outlines that as a student government, as a student body, there is an elected representative on the Board of Governors, and so they have a voice in all decisions that the Board of Governors makes. That is something really important to keep in mind with that, and it outlines trust in the Board of Governors to be the primary decision maker on important rules relating to campus safety.

Next, it outlines some historical precedent and arguments against this legislation. There is a 2008 case, *District of Columbia v. Heller*, in which Justice Antonin Scalia wrote in the majority opinion of that case that the court's opinion

should not be taken to cast doubt on long-standing prohibitions on laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools and government buildings.

Finally, it also outlines that two founding fathers: Thomas Jefferson, the primary author of the Declaration of Independence, and James Madison, the primary author of the Bill of Rights, including the 2nd Amendment of the Constitution, were on the Board of Visitors at the University of Virginia. In 1824, when creating the student code for the University of Virginia, both of them weighed in and voted against allowing firearms to be carried. Their support of a rule prohibiting firearms on that campus, in President Pro Tempore Khan's opinion, provides valuable insight into the strong historical precedent of gun-free college campuses in the country.

Essentially, there are four proclamations within this piece of legislation, opposing the passage of any legislation, supporting and maintaining the autonomy of the Board of Governors and preserving the principle of local control with respect to this matter, supporting the position of the principal author of the Declaration of Independence and the principal author of the first ten amendments to the Constitution in opposition to allowing firearms on college campuses, and finally, acknowledging the Senate Bill 10 in its current form takes legitimate and serious concerns from university officials into consideration. President Gee and President Smith's letter did a really great job of outlining a number of those things and there is a lot in this bill that takes that into consideration, which is important to acknowledge. Happy to yield to any questions on the proclamation. It is President Pro Tempore Khan's intention to fast track this piece of legislation.

*Senator Miller:* Did SGA survey any students on this issue specifically? Have done that a lot in the past, so if not, why not?

*President Pro Tempore Khan:* SGA did. Had a survey in December which asked about this issue. There were a couple of hundred responses to the survey, and that gave an idea, but was not included here as were not sure if that would be an accurate or representative sample. That was talked about in committee with Senator Miller there last semester. With the nature of the process that exists, as the legislature runs through their business, sets their agenda, and puts bills on the floor when they like to, SGA has to react to the timing that they select, which is what this is. Ideally there could be a survey, but the bill is already out of committee and will be on the floor as early as next week potentially.



**a. Discussion**

- President Pro Tempore Khan moved to dispense with the second reading of AP-2023-01-01 and take the proclamation up for immediate consideration via voice vote.
- The motion to dispense with the second reading of AP-2023-01-01 and take the proclamation up for immediate consideration was seconded by College Senator Oursler.
- The ayes have it. AP-2023-01-01 was fast tracked.

*College Senator Azinger:* Would like to preface the discussion by stating that College Senator Azinger understands that this is a very sensitive topic. He understands that there has been a lot of violence on campuses across the country, especially this year with Idaho, Virginia, and so forth. Going forward, whatever he says, please take it with him understanding the situation the country is in. With that being said, he does believe that the founding fathers, though stated by President Pro Tempore Khan that they provided consideration when founding the University of Virginia, that the second amendment is being infringed on in this country. Specifically, College Senator Azinger believes that preventing people from carrying weapons on campus is one of the avenues that's been taken. In this bill, it is important to mention that there are a lot of provisions with all the exceptions made throughout campus, and there are considerations taken of sensitive areas where guns should not be carried. In general, it serves the population of the country and it serves the youth to have guns around them, safely and with training, which concealed carry would. As Travis said in the informational speech, those who carry guns have to have a concealed carry permit, which means that they have to go through some sort of instructional course, and most of the time, although there are exceptions, have had a lot of hours handling pistols and know how to handle them very well. College Senator Azinger thinks in general, it serves the youth, the state of West Virginia, and universities across the country to have people college-aged exposed to firearms and know how to use them correctly.

It's a cliché saying, but when you outlaw guns, the only people who have guns are outlaws. That might not resonate well here, but College Senator Azinger believes that to be true. If there are law-abiding citizens who care about the country, who care about their fellow peers, who know how to operate guns and use guns effectively and safely, that is the best type of population that can be had in this country. College Senator Azinger is for Senate Bill 10 and urges this Assembly to consider doing away with the proclamation and reconsidering the impact that this bill will have.

*College Senator Hudson:* Since hearing about this, College Senator Hudson was not able



to be at this week's Government Relations Committee meeting because of a class conflict, but what he was able to do was reach out with some feelers and talk to people that he doesn't necessarily usually talk to about these issues given the prominence and immediate concern amongst this body for it. He was able to reach out to faculty, to staff, and to students, including international students, out-of-state students, and West Virginia students at the graduate and undergraduate level to hear their concerns, whether they be in favor or in opposition to Senate Bill 10. He even had some emails which came into him just before this meeting from faculty over some previous concerns which they had from the legislature taking up similar bills in the past. One of the things that really stuck out to College Senator Hudson was that some of these individuals had worked at institutions such as Virginia Tech, and they had left Virginia Tech just prior to the shooting that occurred there on the college campus. They were employed at the University of Pittsburgh whenever there were similar issues that had happened in Pittsburgh. They outlined some of the concerns that they had, not just with regard to the ability to carry on campus, but with the insufficiencies that are a result of some of the considerations that were being taken into consideration through this bill. Can say that you shouldn't be allowed to carry a gun in healthcare space or in a laboratory with flammable materials, but that is not going to stop anything. Can say that there are security things, but there are lapses that occur with all of that. One of the things that they left him with was, allowing guns on campus creates an environment that encourages fear, polarization, and misunderstanding. Hopes that the Assembly votes to do whatever they can to bring love, understanding, and compassion to their troubles.

If you look at the issue at hand and ask what's your number? What's your number of guns that's safe on campus that aren't in the hands of law enforcement? If you ask College Senator Hudson what his number is, his number is zero. It is obvious that there was concern amongst the people that he talked to. From faculty he heard concerns over how they would feel handing out grades in class whenever students might be having a concealed carry. From staff he heard concerns over the positions that they could be put in, whether that be in a regulated space or not. From international students, he heard concerns about leaving their countries and coming to the U.S. already hearing about the issues that occur in schools across the U.S. then happening at the school that they choose to come to. From the graduate and undergraduate level, he heard people wondering how it will affect the rest of their time at WVU. From College Senator Hudson's perspective, looking at recruitment and retention, he thinks that this would be a significant

turn-off for people. With gun violence that is experienced around the U.S., oftentimes people like to say that in West Virginia, the mountains will protect. Unfortunately, for this issue, that is something that is especially untrue.

In 2021, there was a John Hopkins survey that went out polling Americans on their preferences for allowing any type of guns on educational campuses. They found that over 81% of Americans in 2021 opposed allowing this to happen, which has significantly decreased over the past five years. In California, there was a study published in the NCBI that surveyed the correlation between the proximity of gun stores to school buildings, and they found that there was a significant correlation between the proximity of gun stores and incidences of gun violence and gun-related issues on school campuses. While this bill doesn't address that, what it does do is ensure that there is a legal route, should Senate Bill 10 pass, that would allow that on college campuses. One can infer that there could be a similar correlation as a result. In 2022, there was over 300 shootings on educational buildings in the U.S., the most in U.S. history. With all of those things taken into consideration, College Senator Hudson thinks that they should work on keeping as few guns in the classroom as possible, and as many teachers that they have in the state of West Virginia, whether that be in K-12 or in college institutions, in there.

*Senator Miller:* Earlier this year, the Government Relations Committee posted a Legislative Priorities survey. While it did not have the largest sample size, it was relatively extensive compared to most polls from this body. Regarding gun legislation, only 51% of students surveyed “opposed” or “somewhat opposed” campus carry, with a remaining 49% supporting it or staying neutral. Despite those numbers, this body has quickly chosen to rush through this proclamation with little more student input. Senator Miller believes this highlights a personal bias that they hold.

- Senator Miller moved to table AP-2023-01-01 until a later meeting to receive more information on the matter via roll call vote.
- The motion to table AP-2023-01-01 until a later meeting to receive more information on the matter was seconded by College Senator Azinger.

**b. Discussion on the Motion to Table AP-2023-01-01**

*President Pro Tempore Khan:* President Pro Tempore Khan would oppose this motion for a couple of reasons. First of all, it is important to note that each of the Assembly members are elected, and their job here today is to do what they think is right for the students of West Virginia University. Sometimes they might come to different

conclusions about what that is, and that is completely fine. He respects and knows that everybody here is doing what they think is right for campus safety.

President Pro Tempore Khan thinks that there is a strong historical precedent for not having these types of laws on college campuses. Have gone over 240 years in this country without guns on college campuses, and he would like to see 240 more that way. President Pro Tempore Khan is going to vote “no” on this motion because he thinks that the Assembly should pass the proclamation, but he is also going to vote “no” because the legislature is moving. It is possible that this bill could be on the governor’s desk at some point next week. Not saying that that will be the case, but it is a possibility. Waiting, whether you be in favor or in opposition to this, is potentially risking not allowing the students of West Virginia University to weigh in to their elected representatives in the state legislature about how they feel about this issue. President Pro Tempore Khan does not want to do that, so he is going to vote no.

*Senator Miller:* Ultimately, the argument Senator Miller hears is that they want to retain power for the board of governors and such. He thinks that with only 51% in opposition it is simply too close for the Assembly to make a decision on this for the entire student body. It's obvious that a majority of SGA is in opposition to SB10, but only 51% of the students said that they oppose this legislation, and Senator Miller thinks that is too close of numbers. He really thinks they should get more polling data and everything like that before making a decision.

*College Senator Hudson:* The Legislative Priorities Survey that was collected through the Government Relations Committee was used as a baseline to determine a number of stances that they had on campus through a different type of Likert scale to figure out levels of support. The committee ultimately found that there were a lot of people who had no opinion on the matter. However, all of these things were taken qualitatively because it is important to point out that there was a statistically insignificant number of responses to draw any conclusions about that.

- Roll Call Vote:

President Pro Tempore Khan- Nay

Senator Amores- Excused

College Senator Azinger- Aye

College Senator Blair- Nay

College Senator Cahill- Excused

Senator Chennuru- Nay

College Senator Clark- Excused  
Senator Conner- Nay  
College Senator Donner- Absent  
College Senator Dozier- Nay  
College Senator Dysart- Excused  
College Senator Escue- Excused  
College Senator Griffith- Nay  
College Senator Guschel- Excused  
Senator Hodges- Nay  
College Senator Hudson- Nay  
College Senator Irfan- Nay  
Senator Jones- Nay  
College Senator Madden- Nay  
College Senator Marquart- Excused  
College Senator McMillen- Absent  
College Senator Milam- Nay  
Senator Miller- Aye  
College Senator Mitchell- Nay  
College Senator Moore- Nay  
College Senator Neiswonger- Excused  
College Senator Oursler- Nay  
College Senator Patel- Absent  
College Senator Phillips- Nay  
Senator Price- Nay  
College Senator Risk- Nay  
Senator SantMyer- Excused  
College Senator Schwartzmiller- Excused  
College Senator Tabidze- Nay  
Senator Uqaily- Nay  
Senator Volk- Nay  
Senator Whalen- Nay  
College Senator Wooten- Nay  
College Senator Zoglio- Excused

- The motion to table AP-2023-01-01 until a later meeting failed with 24 nays and 2 ayes.
  - c. Discussion on AP-2023-01-01**
- President Pro Tempore Khan moved to add Senator Amores and College Senator Guschel to roll via unanimous consent.
- The motion to add Senator Amores and College Senator Guschel to the roll was seconded by College Senator Hudson.
- There were no objections, and Senator Amores and College Senator Guschel were added to the roll.

*College Senator Azinger:* Have had a little bit of discussion so far, but would like to emphasize that West Virginia University has the opportunity to encourage education of handling firearms in general. The rifle team, in a way though it is not real guns, through that avenue could use or encourage education, as well as through other ways with various partnerships. It is not really black-and-white as far as whether you are anti-gun or for guns, but in general it can be used as an education purpose for students who may not have ever seen a gun. Allow that exposure and experience, which is invaluable especially in the times today. Would like to emphasize that point as discussion and voting moves forward.

*Senator Amores:* Senator Amores grew up on a dairy farm in the small junction of Kabletown, West Virginia, which essentially lies between the divide of the Virginia-West Virginia line. She was a member of 4-H the entirety of her young life, she shot Rifle, and participated in archery competitions between the tri-county area. She has been around firearms her entire life, needless to say. Senator Amores would not say that she is in any way afraid of firearms, but she feels uncomfortable around the people that are able to utilize them. From personal experience, she was a victim of home burglary. Her first weekend in her first ever college-adult-home, for lack of a better word. Her first weekend on campus last semester, three men broke into her home and raided the entire house while she was home. Only the second night she had ever slept in her own room, two hundred miles from her parents, seeing a gun in the waist belt of a male more than a foot taller than her is never something she would have imagined and still continuously haunts her in her dreams. Senator Amores shot Rifle her entire youth life; it is not the same. Never in her life would she say that the same tool used to take the lives of a human being and to manipulate human beings around the world would ever be the solution to a problem in her life.

*College Senator Mitchell:* Want to discuss in particular the section that highlights the

residence halls. Last year as an RA, and with every RA that College Senator Mitchell has worked with were against this, as it puts an unfair pressure and position on RAs to regulate that type of behavior. If they keep it in their rooms and have their own safes, you are relying on 18-20 year olds in particular in residence halls to make really great decisions. From her own experience, College Senator Mitchell does not think that they do. It puts RAs and residence hall staff in really uncomfortable positions. Every residence hall has a community and a study section on each floor, so it is not like you can only walk into the lobby. You are going up into where people live and having access to people who feel deeply uncomfortable, scared, and worried about you existing in their own homes with things that they don't find pleasant or okay. It is unfair to ask people working in those buildings to potentially handle firearms or be around them if they do not feel comfortable, especially if that is not something they have necessarily agreed to. It removes the ability to make choices for people, and College Senator Mitchell does not think that's fair.

- College Senator Hudson moved to add College Senator Dysart to the roll via unanimous consent.
- The motion to add College Senator Dysart to the roll was seconded by College Senator Oursler.
- There were no objections, and College Senator Dysart was added to roll.

*College Senator Guschel:* As a victim of her undergraduate university's school shooting on April 30th, 2019, it is a day that College Senator Guschel will never forget. The stress and terror of having to be escorted out by SWAT is something that she would never wish upon anybody. She thinks the mental health side of things should be kept in mind when thinking about this going forward.

*College Senator Blair:* Something that is important to consider in this discussion is that this goes beyond the scope of just WVU. While the Assembly sits in these chairs and represents the WVU student body, even the WVU student body is just one singular portion and entity within the entirety of WVU that is the administrators, the faculty, the extension, the sports, the medicine, etc. Would argue that this passing would be more limiting to education than it would be to benefiting it. Now all universities in the State of West Virginia are allowing firearms, which is going to significantly impact people's decisions on whether or not they want to come to school here. That is not just come to school at WVU, but come to school in the entire state of West Virginia.

College Senator Blair has lived here her whole life and thinks she has heard more times than she ever wants to hear again that the “young people are leaving the state” and “how do we get the young people to stay here?,” “there’s significant “brain drain” here in the State of West Virginia,” “no one with higher levels of education want to stay.” If young people who are coming to learn in our state, and educated people who want to continue their education and want to stay in these fields, are in a place where they don’t feel safe anywhere- it is not like they can just choose WVU, they can’t chose anywhere in the State of West Virginia to study or to be a part of the community because they feel unsafe- then to College Senator Blair that is limiting education. Also, not just education, but the outreach opportunities, the funds, the economic development, that is a direct result of having so many students, having so many related communities, coming into the state for education, that College Senator Blair does not really see how these issues that have been plaguing West Virginia for so long- the question of having good healthcare, education, the opioid crisis, all of it- comes back to having communities surrounded in education and support. If there is no place for that in West Virginia, then she does not really know how they can have other conversations furthering possible solutions when the root and foundation of what is helping address these issues, the safety and security of that, is taken away. For that, College Senator Blair does not even think that strongly is a good enough word to say that she doesn’t support guns being on the campus, or on West Virginia campuses, and that that should be the decision of the individual campuses themselves.

*Senator Price:* Growing up in the great State of West Virginia, as a fifth-generation West Virginian, Senator Price has a deep appreciation for the gun culture in the state. He has gone hunting since he could walk, he grew up in a home with more rifles than people- both for hunting and self-defense,- and no one loves the second amendment more than him. Many of his colleagues have already talked about the safety implications of the campus carry on campus, so he wants to go into a bit of a different direction that President Pro Tempore Khan alluded to. He wants to elaborate on the idea of institutional autonomy.

What SB10 does is not simply legalize campus carry, it erodes institutional autonomy on public safety policies and procedures. SB10 takes that autonomy and that decision-making ability away from the public safety officials of our university and puts it into the hands of Charleston politicians. As a student of WVU, Senator Price trusts the public safety officials of this university to promulgate good and effective safety policy on campus far more than he would



the politicians in the state capitol. Therefore, he encourages his colleagues to vote in favor of this proclamation, not only in the name of public safety, but in the interests of institutional autonomy.

*College Senator Azinger:* Would argue that instead of giving autonomy to Charleston politicians, it gives autonomy to citizens of West Virginia, the people who should have autonomy and who should be making decisions on whether or not they should be able to possess a gun no matter where in the state. Instead of arguing whether it be Charleston politicians or public safety experts in the university, the founding documents were meant to have citizens be protected from the government. That is what the second amendment is for, tyrannical beings imposing their will on its citizens. College Senator Azinger thinks the citizens, the individual will, should be making that decision.

Call it what it is here, it's okay if everyone else in the room doesn't want to possess a gun, but he doesn't think that that gives anyone the right to take his desire, or anyone else's desire to have a gun. The Constitutional Carry aspect of it allows a safe avenue to get trained, get the appropriate measures taken to be adequately prepared to handle a firearm. The reality of the situation is, we don't live in a perfect world. In an imperfect world you have people who abuse guns and take advantage of schools, colleges, or whatever it may be. It falls on us- the individuals- to protect ourselves and protect each other. Sometimes police officers aren't there, as has been seen before. Sometimes the public safety experts aren't there to protect. Giving individuals the right to have the opportunity to protect themselves and the university, where you might feel like a sitting duck sometimes, College Senator Azinger does not think there is anything wrong with that. He believes SB10 allows the individuals, 18-year-olds or 21-year-olds, to have that right. Don't forget the military-his brother and he's sure some others have family members who participate in the military- get great training with firearms. That is who everyone relies on to protect themselves from foreign enemies. The age argument should also take into account the amount of training that the person of that age has. As Senator Price said he grew up hunting, College Senator Azinger grew up around firearms. Different people have different aspects of training and different levels, which should be considered as well. It shouldn't be said that an 18-year-old shouldn't have a gun, it should be considered the level of training they have. College Senator Azinger and Senator Miller are trying to talk about that, it is not just a certain age or demographic, it's those that have a proper level of training and have gone through the proper avenues to maintain their own rights to protect themselves from possible dangers. Dangers that have been seen happen

in this country, when other precautions were taken didn't work and failed. It falls down to the individual, which is what College Senator Azinger is fighting for: the constitutional right to carry.

*Senator Conner:* Wanted to touch on the provisions in the bill. Those are there, and while Senator Conner is glad that they are, she also thinks that they are very vague. When it comes to funding for those kinds of things, as Travis said earlier, this bill is probably going to pass and it's probably going to pass overwhelmingly. Thankfully, WVU has the funds to support that kind of thing and put up safety measures and provisions where they need to, but as a land-grant institution, as the flagship research university in the state, and as a staple in the state, it is important to also think of the smaller universities that might not have the funding or the money to put up safety provisions where they need. Senator Conner prays that all that College Senator Azinger is saying is right and that nothing happens on campus, but she worries for the smaller schools and for WVU. She would like to have the autonomy of the people that are sitting in her classes everyday to be able to make those kinds of decisions, and the people that represent her to make those decisions, instead of a couple of guys sitting in a judiciary committee having conversations about it.

*College Senator Risk:* It is very important and has not been addressed that there are definitely people on campus who would support this bill, and they do. It is very important to recognize that there are people who would like to be able to carry their firearms on campus. The argument of institutional autonomy is very important, which is why College Senator Risk would oppose this specific bill. But it should not be shot down that if they want to increase education of firearms on campus, that can be done. If they want to approach the Board of Governors and change their idea of what should be on our specific campus, that is very important as well. If there is adequate support for concealed carry on campus, the student body could address that and would have the power to change that for themselves.

As was said earlier, the state deciding that every campus in West Virginia should have concealed carry on campus is not representative of West Virginia student body necessarily. There are a lot of people that go to WVU that are not from this state, and they probably did not elect those people because they couldn't. College Senator Risk thinks it is very important that WVU students are WVU students and what they believe is what they believe. What the State of West Virginia believes is not necessarily what they believe. College Senator Risks thinks that the Assembly should support this proclamation and that there should

be autonomy with the university. If there are students that do wish for concealed carry to be allowed on campus, they should organize and let that be known.

*Vice President Uqaily:* Please address the chair when you are speaking and refrain from talking to each other.

*College Senator Hudson:* First, on the issue of autonomy, College Senator Hudson wanted to be clear. If they are asking the West Virginia legislature how they feel about autonomy, they need to look no further than the women and people who can give birth in this room on how the legislature feels about autonomy. Second, he believes that no one's desire to carry a firearm in a classroom trumps anyone else's desire to learn in a safe and productive environment. It is important to note that you can support the second amendment without supporting the right to introduce guns into classrooms, and that is exactly where College Senator Hudson stands.

When listening to the new leaders of the state legislature talk about their plans for the upcoming legislature, College Senator Hudson heard three things that were echoing over and over: to create a West Virginia that is a better place to work, a better place to live, and a better place to raise families. When thinking about this bill and whether it makes West Virginia a better place to work, College Senator Hudson sees that they are taking workplaces that were once safe spaces and turning them into places that are no longer safe havens. When thinking about a place to live, he thinks about where he would want to raise his kids and what type of school system he is looking for. In a state that is already having so many problems with their school systems, introducing something else, that, as has been seen, is opposed by the vast majority of Americans, is not a solution to ending what they had as a net population loss of the State of West Virginia this year. In terms of a better place to raise a family, don't need to look any farther from that.

With all those things aside, it is important that the Assembly note that regardless of individual opinions on this, it is important to acknowledge everyone else's. College Senator Hudson thinks that they can have education about guns that doesn't have to occur as a test run on the college campuses. They can have education about guns without including guns in the room themselves. He hopes that the Assembly can come to an agreement on these, and if not an agreement, that they have a better understanding that there are students on this campus who might wish to carry guns. That is completely within their right to do so, but he simply does not see the way that that will create a safe place for people to learn and attract people to stay.

*Senator Miller:* Currently the safety issues have been talked about, but there is not really any provisions right now. There are no metal detectors around the school, or anything like that. So many travesties have been happening in these “gun free zones” that it is an endangerment to the students. If this passes, not only would there be more funding for gun protections, there would also be more education on the matter as well. Ultimately, Senator Miller thinks they are going to increase the safety and protection of students if this actually passes, as it will make the university do something about it. It would also increase the crime from misdemeanor to felony. Right now it’s a misdemeanor to carry, so someone could bring a gun to campus and get told to leave. Or if they are not caught with it, then they are carrying it around all day without any rules or anything. Senator Miller thinks safety should be increased and that this bill does that.

*College Senator Oursler:* Right now at the university, there is currently a student shortage. They didn’t meet the goals, so many different budgets over the entire university are being majorly cut- from not being able to spend any money for the rest of the year or severely limiting the budgets. Even roads and grounds that College Senator Oursler met with today has to be cut majorly. College Senator Oursler does not see how this is going to positively impact the university on that side of things, because there are students that come from all over this country and from many nations around the world.

This being on campus is really going to impact the decisions being made. Is WVU really going to be somebody’s first choice when this is on campus, compared to a very similar university in another state. They are already going to be traveling hundreds of miles to get here, why would they choose this over another place? With that, there are so many muddy areas. What happens when there is a student group from, say Berkley Springs, that comes to campus and is touring multiple different buildings all over campus. How do these rules change? Is there any change? Don’t understand that side of things, because they can’t be close to K-12 students, but if they are touring campus, does that mean they have a bubble around them? College Senator Oursler just does not see this as something that would be safe.

He will echo it here too, he has been around guns for most of his life. His dad, his brother, and him have gone hunting many times. He sees them as tools, but he does not see the effectiveness of this tool on a campus like WVU that is so spread out and that has a police force specifically paid for by the university. College Senator Oursler has never felt like he needs a gun today. He trusts the

people that the university pays to protect students and they make themselves very available for most students.

College Senator Oursler opposes this. In the residence halls, where is the funding going to come from to get the safety lockers to put the guns in. He just doesn't understand where all this is going to come from if right now they are currently facing budget shortages and having to cut back. Where is there going to be money to put forward for all this new stuff that is going to have to be had?

- College Senator Irfan moved to vote on the proclamation.

*Vice President Uqaily:* That is out of order, still in discussion.

*President Pro Tempore Khan:* Would like to clarify one thing. It is President Pro Tempore Khan's understanding that the bill does not deal with funding for safety. There is no fiscal note on Senate Bill 10 in the legislature. It didn't go before the finance committee in the state Senate. It does not deal with funding as it relates to safety on this campus.

*Senator Price:* Will phrase this like a discussion as it's beyond questioning, if anyone could answer this. It would be interesting to know if this applied to out-of-state students, or if only in-state students would be able to apply for concealed carry. That's an interesting statement.

*President Pro Tempore Khan:* President Pro Tempore Khan's answer and interpretation would be that to have the concealed carry permit, you would need to follow the laws of West Virginia to be able to carry concealed in the state. He thinks Travis mentioned that it's through the sheriff's offices. His inclination would be that if an out-of-state resident followed the process with the Monongalia County sheriff, they would be able to do so.

*College Senator Mitchell:* Something that is super important to note, pulled from the American Public Journal of Health- a government website that has been fact checked- statistically people are more likely to die in concealed carry situations, up to five times more likely. This also raises homicide rates overall in states that have concealed carry, and people are more likely to commit suicide in areas that have concealed carry.

There is this big belief that if you have a gun you are going to somehow defend a group of people, and College Senator Mitchell thinks a lot of that comes from individual vigilante complexes that just really aren't true, because you really don't know how you are going to react, especially in a high stress situation like that. She doesn't think that it is a fair argument to believe that carrying a gun or

having someone in a room that carries a gun is somehow going to save you. She just thinks that's a belief of heroism that is not statistically backed.

*President Pro Tempore Khan:* Briefly to further clarify the answer for Senator Price's question. There are some reciprocity agreements that exist with some states on concealed carry permits. Essentially, some out-of-state students would be able to carry if they have a permit which is recognized by West Virginia. If the state had a reciprocity agreement with the state where they obtained the concealed carry permit, or if they apply for citizenship in West Virginia they would be able to apply for concealed carry. That is the correct explanation.

*College Senator Blair:* Something College Senator Blair wants to bring up for discussion, and this could maybe be her not understanding all the fine print of the various letters, documents, and summaries that have come about on this bill, but people keep talking about exposure and education around guns. She certainly thinks that exposure would be true. She had to learn how to use a gun when she went camping for three weeks and it was the worst thing she ever did; she learned how to use one but she still doesn't like seeing them around. Maybe if they were on campus she would become more accustomed to it. However, with the whole idea of education she is not really seeing anywhere where there is a requirement to have some kind of educational module or an understanding that you as a carrier know where you can and cannot have your gun.

College Senator Blair understands that there are certain educational requirements that go into getting a permit and having a gun, and she knows that those go through their fair share of expertise, and consulting, and adjustments, but where is the requirement for education on what you can and cannot do on this campus? Where is the education on how operating, owning, and cleaning a gun would be different in these spaces vs. your own personal home? If there is no education, does the Board of Governors have the power to create a WVU educational module if they don't have the power to decide whether or not they can have guns on campus?

Feel like the education talked about is a broad education on what it means to be able to have a gun, but it has no context to what it means to operate and use a gun in these situations. Nor is there any education for someone uncomfortable around guns. If someone were in a residence hall and their roommate had a gun, and they were uncomfortable with it, how do they approach that conversation or do de-escalation? How do they have a disagreement without being worried that something will happen? That kind of education is not in place, and the way it



would be put in place seems to be part of the problem, because it seems like the decision-making on some campus-wide things is up for question in general.

College Senator Blair agrees very much with what College Senator Risk said earlier that there can certainly be education, discussion, students bringing their voice forward, focus groups, conversations, and panels. Let's have a student panel where people can talk about if they do want guns or why they don't want guns. But right now with what this bill is suggesting, College Senator Blair does not think there is any education in there or how to proceed with any of this stuff. If they are going to do something so broad as to say that guns can be allowed on all campuses and then wipe their hands and back away to let everybody deal with how that is executed and what that looks like, College Senator Blair thinks it's pretty unfair to expect an increase in safety, understanding of rights, and an understanding of what you can and cannot do when you are asking someone to do what is outside of their normal operation but giving them not really any guidance on how to go forward with that and leaving that up to their discretion.

- President Pro Tempore Khan moved to end discussion via rising vote.
- The motion to end discussion was seconded by College Senator Hudson.
- Those in favor have it with 25 yays, 0 nays, and 3 abstentions. Discussion was ended.

#### **d. Voting**

- President Pro Tempore Khan moved to approve AP-2023-01-01 via voice vote.
- The motion to approve AP-2023-01-01 was seconded by College Senator Irfan.
- The ayes have it. AP-2023-01-01 was passed.

#### **B. AB-2023-01-01**

- President Pro Tempore Khan moved to explain AB-2023-01-01 in lieu of having it read via unanimous consent.
- The motion to explain AB-2023-01-01 in lieu of having it read was seconded by Senator Price.
- There were no objections, and AB-2023-01-01 was approved to be explained.

*President Pro Tempore Khan:* Yielded to Attorney General Long.

*Attorney General Long:* Bill to amend the Student Government Association Constitution to reform the organization's impeach process. It passed through the Governing Documents Review Committee just before break. Want to talk a bit about SGA's constitutional amendment process so that it can be understood and what is being voted on can be understood. There will be a second reading on this bill, but just for reference. The committee has proposed these amendments for the assembly to review. They must be approved by two-thirds for them to get to the next stage.



The next stage is that they will be on the ballot for the Spring 2023 election. Attorney General Long cannot campaign for these changes, but if anyone is in favor of them, they can.

Why reform impeachment? It is a clear shortcoming in the SGA constitution. The current constitution is very vague on many details regarding the process, including how the articles of impeachment are presented to the assembly, and how the assembly inquiry unfolds. The current constitution is also in danger of letting bias slip into the process and needs more oversight from the judicial branch. An unclear impeachment procedure will lead to a muddled impeachment process, as it has in the past. The Governing Documents Review Committee believes these reforms will answer the needs described above.

The actual reforms. An amendment to Section 10.2.1 B clarifies how the articles make it to the Assembly floor and how they are structured. They will be presented in the form of a bill, just as this legislation is being presented. The only difference between that and a normal bill would be that the articles of impeachment would be voted on separately and not together, meaning that if one person disagreed with one article but agreed with another, then they could express that preference accordingly. Another thing that is useful about structuring this as a piece of legislation is that there are impeachment managers. More on their role when talking about the trial process.

It also clarifies the role of the prosecuting side, which is the managers. Instead of the vice president chairing the inquiry, it would be a justice from J-court appointed by the chief justice. It also establishes the right of the accused to representation. The representation does not have to be from someone with a law degree, it can be anyone of their choice. It also sets the trial procedure to be a modified version of Robert's Rules. Felt that this was best as all the other procedures run on Robert's Rules so it would be a little odd for this not to. Attorney General Long thinks that it is a superb system and others systems would be far too convoluted; as you will see, this is very simple. Clarifies how the second reading works, which would be the same trial procedures, probably with more brevity, giving people more opportunity to introduce any evidence that wasn't introduced during the first reading.

An amendment to 10.2.C excludes the justice who chaired the inquiry from the J-court certification, which is the next stage of the impeachment process in which the judicial court certifies the Assembly's vote to remove the accused from office. It fortifies J-courts' incubation for the rest of SGA, which means that whatever the justice witnessed will not necessarily be able to be brought to the

vote. It will be insulated just to the particular evidence that was brought forth from the trial.

The trials in Robert's Rules and how they work. They are kicked off in Robert's Rules by committee referral and other investigations. However, SGA will not be doing this, which is specifically mentioned in the bill. Here are the citations in the presentation. SGA would be starting straight from the Assembly-wide trial stage. To get rid of committee excess or bias, it is brought straight to the Assembly. Everyone can consider it, it is a family matter, dealing with a family crisis, and that's the process. During the trial, the accused has the right to representation. The executive secretary begins the trial by reading the charges and asking the accused how they plead. If the accused pleads guilty, the charges proceed directly to J-court without an Assembly vote. If the accused pleads not guilty, the trial proceeds.

The format of the trial is opening statements, witness testimony from both sides, opportunities for rebuttal and cross examination, and closing arguments. Then the accused leaves the room and the charges are debated and voted upon. After voting, the verdict is announced to the accused, only occurring during the second reading of the trial. The justice will act like a judge, ruling on evidence and performing other duties specified more clearly in Robert's Rules. Left a lot of these up to citation, as it would not be wise to copy and paste everything from Robert's Rules under the Constitution, as that would be a little cumbersome.

Attorney General Long may not be here next week, as he has another obligation, so President Pro Tempore Khan will handle the second reading of the bill in his absence if it occurs.

#### **a. Discussion and Voting**

*Senator Price:* Senator Price thinks that the Governing Documents Committee did a really good job putting these together, and he thinks that this will help to make sure the impeachment process is more fair and effective, and also that it is more clarified, so that if someone is ever impeached, it is made sure that they have a good and fair trial and everything can go off without a hitch. He firmly supports this and encourages all of his colleagues to support it as well.

*Senator Whalen:* Wants to echo Senator Price. The Governing Documents Committee worked all together on this and had it in mind that this won't change for the future administrations. If anyone does have any other feedback please give that. Really want this to be a long lasting change that won't have to be brought up again.

- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to table AB-2023-01-01 until the next meeting via unanimous consent.
- The motion to table AB-2023-01-01 until the next meeting via unanimous consent was moved by Senator Volk.
- The motion to table AB-2023-01-01 until the next meeting was seconded by College Senator Dozier.
- There were no objections, and AB-2023-01-01 was tabled until the next meeting.

### **C. AR-2023-01-01**

*College Senator Blair:* Would like to yield her time to the ghost author whose name is unfortunately not allowed to be in the author position.

- College Senator Blair moved to yield her time to Intern Matthew Olivero via unanimous consent.
- The motion to yield College Senator Blair's time to Intern Olivero was seconded by Senator Price.
- There were no objections, and College Senator Blair's time was yielded to Intern Olivero.

*Intern Olivero:* An assembly resolution to implement recycling education for first-year students.

\*The resolution was read, see Appendix\*

*Senator Whalen:* Are you going to consider continual education past freshman year, or any resources for students that do not live in dorms to start recycling? They may produce more recyclable waste that cannot be recycled because the state does not do that unless you go to a recycle plant. Would this include anything like that?

*Intern Olivero:* Definitely would like to work toward that end in the future. Felt that it would be best to limit the scope of the bill to something like residence halls, because within that domain there is a lot that has to be considered. Met with a lot of administrators about this and felt that if they would try to pass an omnibus recycling bill, everything would get lost in the weeds. In the future, yes, am sure that would definitely want to work on that, but considering that it took a lot just to get this bill done, thought they should keep the scope a bit narrow and do it bit by bit.

### **a. Discussion and Voting**

*College Senator Blair:* To address a little bit of Senator Whalen's question and also give a bit more background behind the purpose and the reasoning for the bill the way that it is. First and foremost, it was mostly Intern Olivero, he was a real champ on

that, and the wonderful efforts of the Sustainability Committee to fill in, attend meetings, and put a group voice behind it, so thank you guys for that.

The reason they chose dorms and what is typically first-year living is the scope of trying to get so many people to recycle, and recycle correctly, is unfortunately insane. If you ask anybody who gets themselves involved with sustainability, dream practice, typically the first thing people will say is recycle more. It's because unfortunately, a lot of recycling systems aren't in place to handle that kind of capacity, and that's the same thing for the university. If one non-recyclable thing goes into a batch of recycles, it ruins the whole thing. The whole thing has to be trashed. Knowing that as a West Virginia student government, who has the power to influence things that West Virginia University controls, the residence halls were the optimal place to start with the idea of creating good habits early.

College Senator Blair totally agrees with Senator Whalen and would love to get her hands on some of Morgantown's municipal recycling services, but that's Morgantown services, not WVU services. Giving more reasoning behind what was done, think it is a really great starting point because everyone always wants to see recycling improve, but people think sometimes recycling is as easy as throwing a brown paper bag into a box with a blue can instead of a black trash can, but it's so much more complicated than that unfortunately. The real big goal behind this is starting good habits early, making people comfortable with the systems, and putting it into their routine, with the hope that when they are out of their control and move into normal Morgantown housing, they will use the habits and knowledge they created. Hopefully by that time, will have the ability to help them more. Right now, they are doing what they can with what they have, and think this is a really great start. Would like to commend Intern Olivero and the Sustainability committee's efforts on this resolution.

*College Senator Oursler:* Want to commend Intern Olivero on his efforts here. To speak to administrator's support. At many of these meetings, it was very positive. They said that some excuses for why 76% of students had an average of poor understanding was that they did just go through a pandemic and some things had to take a backseat. They want to hold many different events to help educate students on what recycling looks like, how much waste you can save by just having everybody in a residence hall recycle one water bottle a day- that's a lot of waste when you think about it. Over this whole process, have seen administrators and committee members making really beneficial relationships. This bill will definitely influence recycling in residence halls.

*Senator Miller:* Think this is a great piece of legislation. It can have a substantial impact on campus, and hope that it will inspire state and local officials to take some more initiatives. Senator Miller supports this bill.

*Senator Price:* Senator Price is no expert on sustainability, recycling, or any environmental stuff, but he thinks that everyone recognizes that recycling is a not-so-secret weapon to enhancing sustainability in society and making sure that everyone lives in a good, clean world, where, especially in such a state like West Virginia that is wild and wonderful, can really cherish the beauty of the natural environment around us. Senator Price firmly supports this legislation.

- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to table AR-2023-01-01 until the next meeting via unanimous consent.
- The motion to table AR-2023-01-01 until the next meeting via unanimous consent was moved by Senator Price.
- The motion to table AR-2023-01-01 until the next meeting was seconded by College Senator Oursler.
- There were no objections, and AR-2023-01-01 was tabled until the next meeting.

#### **D. Student Organization Registrations**

##### **1. WVU Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association**

*Ryan Titus:* Ryan Titus is a grad student here at the School of Public Health, studying industrial hygiene. He is here to propose a WVU Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association. Industrial hygiene is evaluating health hazards in occupational environments, typically ones you cannot see, so noise, radiation, heat strokes especially in summer, microscopic dust that can get into lungs and cause pulmonary issues, and stuff like that. They study that and aim to reduce employee's exposure to those hazards, especially when they are at levels that have been found to be bad with chronic exposure.

The American Industrial Hygiene Association is a national organization that they are looking to make a student section for at WVU. They represent industrial hygienists through networking, publications, educational programs, and scholarships. That national organization is broken into local sections of which WVU is in the Pittsburgh local section. The student section that Ryan is proposing would be within the Pittsburgh section.

They are different from any other student organization here, as the industrial hygiene program used to be in the Statler College of Engineering and just moved to the School of Public Health, and with that came an overhaul. Ryan and his peers, who are the leaders of this organization, are the first cohort of

students within this program. Currently, there is no student organization that represents their specific needs as industrial hygiene students. Their own AIHA section would bring opportunities, traveling, networking, education, leadership, and would overall be a benefit for industrial hygiene students.

Once the organization gains WVU official recognition, Ryan will go straight to Pittsburgh AIHA to show them and have them vote on recognizing them as well. Once that is done, they will be officially recognized by WVU and AIHA, which is the goal. From there, they plan on having monthly meetings, with some local industrial hygiene professionals come and give a talk on their specialty, benefiting both the student organization and the local industrial hygiene community. If you are certified industrial hygienist you must acquire points throughout the year to go toward keeping your certification. One of the ways to get those points is by giving talks to universities. The students can benefit by learning from whatever their speciality is. Most industrial hygienists specialize in one thing, whether that be ventilation, explosive dust, noise, etc. Travel funding- there are a lot of conferences for industrial hygiene and occupational safety at both the local and national level. They are hoping to hold fundraising events to raise funds to send someone within the program to those conventions. Networking events- whenever they have someone come in from the community, they work for a company, and that company may have internship or job opportunities for them to start or further their career with. Recruiting and spreading word about industrial hygiene- as not that many people know what industrial hygiene is. Getting the word out there and telling people what it is can go a long way toward recruiting people for the major. Site visits are one of the main ways to learn industrial hygiene, by going into the industrial sites, such as lumber mills, factories, etc., and seeing what their environmental health and safety team does to keep their workers safe and see what needs to be done and what it looked like in the past.

*College Senator Azinger:* College Senator Azinger's major is industrial engineering, and part of his major is human-factored engineering, where they analyze appropriate safe levels of noise and that type of stuff. Is there any sort of collaboration with the head of the IE department or with any industrial engineering students currently?

*Ryan Titus:* Right now there is nothing yet with industrial engineering, but Ryan started talking with people in the Statler College, specifically within the safety management program. Once he gets approval from WVU and the Pittsburgh AIHA, he is planning on going out and telling people within related majors and



programs about their planned events. Would be happy to work with College Senator Azinger if that is something he would be interested in.

*College Senator Azinger:* Yeah. Specifically, College Senator Azinger likes the networking aspect of it and thinks it would be good for IE majors, especially freshman and sophomores, to have the opportunity to explore that avenue. In one of his current classes, there is a heavy focus on safety, so while it may not be IE related directly, it would be a good way to get different expertise and exposure for some younger students. He will be contacting Ryan to get something set up.

*Ryan Titus:* That is great! Did not even know that IE students would be interested in this.

*Senator Price:* Is industrial hygiene a part of the dental hygiene program, or is it a separate major? Can you explain that a little more?

*Ryan Titus:* Industrial hygiene does get confused with dental hygiene a lot. Industrial hygiene goes into heavy industry sites, like coal mines, rock quarries, factories that make potato chips, logging sites, lumber mills, barges out on the river, railroads, etc., and try to quantify certain hazards that reduce the quality of life for the workers who are exposed to that hazard for a long period of time. Noise is a great example. If you work in a factory for forty years, and your station is right beside this giant water pump, it is going to be very loud. Without hearing protection, you are going to lose your hearing over time. Industrial hygienists go into work sites and quantify the noise and send a report to the employer. Think of OSHA, Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Industrial hygienists are the health within OSHA. They are completely different from dental hygiene.

*Senator Price:* How much interest have you had in the club so far? Have you had any meetings? How much membership do you estimate you have?

*Ryan Titus:* This is the very first year of the program, since it's been overhauled and come off of hiatus. Right now the program is only four people. So they have those four people, as well as some people within the safety management program in Statler College. Just heard interest a few minutes ago from industrial engineering students. Once they get approval from WVU and Pittsburgh AIHA, the organization will be able to officially exist, and they will begin more recruitment activities. Expecting to get a much larger crop of students next semester once the word about industrial hygiene at WVU is out, and are hoping for a much larger amount of students with interest in AIHA next fall.

#### **a. Discussion**

*College Senator Oursler:* College Senator Oursler learned something today. He never



knew that that was a job. Thinks it was a wonderful presentation.

- College Senator Oursler moved to end discussion via rising vote.
- The motion to end discussion was seconded by College Senator Azinger.
- Those in favor unanimously have it. Discussion was ended.

**b. Voting**

- Vice President Uqaily entertained a motion to approve the WVU Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association via voice vote.
- The motion to approve the WVU Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association via voice vote was moved by Senator Volk.
- The motion to approve the WVU Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association was seconded by President Pro Tempore Khan.
- The ayes unanimously have it. The WVU Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association was approved.

**E. FB-2023-01**

*Treasurer Daniel:* Eight grants up for you today. Four travel and four non-travel. For travel, there are orgs going to Cincinnati, Indiana, D.C., and Virginia. For non-travel, two grants are for the Asian Association for catering for two meetings, Pershing Rifles for supplies, and Ukrainian Mountaineer Association for bringing a guest lecturer to campus.

**a. Discussion and Voting**

*President Pro Tempore Khan:* This is a beautiful financial bill. The price is right.

- President Pro Tempore Khan moved to approve FB-2023-01 via unanimous consent.
- The motion to approve FB-2023-01 was seconded by College Senator Oursler.
- There were no objections, and FB-2023-01 was passed.

**XIV. Open Student Forum II**

*Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey:* Wanted to thank Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler for giving a report on all the bills that have been through the legislature so far. There are hundreds more, so if you are interested in learning more about it, visit the website or speak to one of the legislative affairs officers. Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey had to miss Executive Reports because he had a capstone meeting, so he will give it now.

The 86th West Virginia Legislature kicked off their first regular session of 2023 last Wednesday. Today marked the completion of day six out of sixty. A lot has happened already. The government moves slow when you need something and fast when you're off balance. Some of the things that happened included

Governor Justice's pup-less State of the State Address, a senate resolution honoring Coach Huggins' Hall of Fame induction, and nearly one thousand bills introduced between the chambers. The students are going to have to fight to have anything good come out of this session. Unfortunately, started off not at the bottom of the rung, but rather, six feet under.

Senate Bill 10, the campus self-defense act, passed the Senate Judiciary with little opposition this afternoon. The Senate can now read the bill on the floor for a full vote. Student government, in conjunction with President Gee, President Brad Smith, Faculty Senate, and prospectively the Graduate Professional Student Senate stands against this bill. Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey and Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler fully intend to follow through with keeping track of this bill and do what is within the confines of their positions to advocate against it. If you have any questions about this or any other bills related to higher education, Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey would be more than happy to take them at any time. Please message him or Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler.

*Senator Amores:* Name is Maria. Maria uses she/her pronouns. She is a sophomore hailing from the eastern Panhandle of West Virginia. She is sure from the annoying amount that you all hear her voice during meetings that you will know that she is an at-large senator, as well as the chair of the Mental Health and Well-Being Committee. If you would have asked her what she wanted to be when she grew up in preschool, Maria would have told you a Mountaineer. Both her mom and her dad graduated from WVU in the early 90's, and she was practically raised singing "Country Roads." Something unique about growing up in this state that has been instilled in both Maria and Olivia, is the importance of giving back to the community that gives to you. The WVU community has always made Maria feel at home and the two of them feel so deeply drawn to SGA because of the outlet it provides for all of us, and the opportunity to meet students where they are at.

*Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler:* For those who do not know, name is Olivia Dowler. She uses she/her pronouns and currently serves along with Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey as a legislative affairs liaison. Halfway through her third year as a member in the Student Government Association, it has become incredibly clear to her that this is the group that she found her home in on campus. SGA is an organization that has the potential to really make a difference in welcoming students, to not only the university, but also the great State of West Virginia. Maria and Olivia thank the current and prior administrations for their leadership

and dedication, and hope to continue to better the student experience with the same passion and precision. With this, Maria and Olivia are announcing their intentions to be your next student body president and vice president with the purpose of ensuring that every student feels heard and knows their value as a member of the WVU family. They look forward to the exciting discussions that lie ahead and to creating a Student Government that truly reflects what it means to be a mountaineer.

*Vice President Uqaily:* If you would like SGA merchandise, Vice President Uqaily knows it's overpriced, they all complained about it, she will send the link. Please place your orders by tomorrow so that Treasurer Daniel can get the merch.

## **XV. Advisors' Reports**

*Advisor Le:* Want to thank those that took their time to go on the retreat this weekend.

Advisor Le thinks that those who attended really had great energy. It was great to be in the building with you all and just see the liveliness and see your eyes just kind of twinkle for SGA. Thank you Vice President Uqaily, for planning that for you all; she did an amazing job, so kudos to her. She has been talking about this since August of last year, and it was a great time. The SGB at the University of Pittsburgh were amazing hosts and we appreciate the hospitality. Told them that if they are ever in Morgantown, please hit us up. There's pictures coming.

Secondly, for those that came tonight, thank you for your dedication. There was a WVU game against the number 14th ranked TCU, and for those who don't know, WVU did win. Thank you all who are here tonight that didn't have the temptation to go to the game against a ranked opponent. Thank you for your dedication to SGA.

Finally, just some procedural things. When reading legislation, be mindful that the gallery doesn't receive what the assembly receives. Reading, especially during first readings, is important, and not to just explain, because there could be some transparency things that may be lost in translation through presentation and, and through them not receiving that. Just want to make sure to be cognizant of that. If it's a second reading, Advisor Le can understand because that information is out there at that point. For first reasons, now granted he does understand that it is within senator's right to bypass the reading itself for explanation, but just for context for the art gallery and those that are visiting, please make sure to try to do first readings. Also, it's been bugging the advisors a lot, but when you make

motions, you say “I move.” Just for clarity, because he’s heard “I motion that” and that's incorrect. Have a great rest of the week and let's go Mountaineers!

*Advisor Prunty:* For those of you that came to the Student Org Fair to work the tables for your own organizations outside of SGA or for SGA, Advisor Prunty appreciates you immensely. They had 500 attendees tonight, which is amazing for the org fair. Thank you all so much, she appreciates you and is always here for your org needs if you need her.

#### **XVI. Snaps**

Snaps were given to Intern Matthew Olivero, Senator Price, College Senator Clark, everyone that participated in discussion tonight-especially in regard to the assembly proclamation, Legislative Affairs Liaison Dowler, Legislative Affairs Officer Riffey, Senator Azinger, Senator Miller.

#### **XVII. Adjournment**

The motion to adjourn was entertained by President Pro Tempore Khan.

The motion to adjourn was seconded by College Senator Dozier.

The ayes have it. The meeting was adjourned.

West Virginia University  
The Student Assembly - Student Government Association  
Assembly Proclamation: AP-2023-01-01  
**An Assembly Proclamation in Opposition to SB 10**

<b>Short Title:</b>	<b>Opposing Campus Carry Legislation</b>
<b>Author(s):</b>	<b>Azeem Khan, President Pro Tempore</b>
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	<b>Devin Price, Senator Matthew Hudson, College Senator (Health Sciences) Brooklyn Milam, College Senator (Health Sciences) Hannah Cait. Guschel, College Senator (Health Sciences) Brogan J Dozier, College Senator (Reed) Madison Santmyer, Senator Avery Conner, Senator Garrett Oursler, College Senator (Davis)</b>
<b>Contributor(s):</b>	
<b>Committee</b>	<b>Government Relations Committee</b>
<b>Endorsement: First</b>	<b>01/18/2023</b>
<b>Reading Date:</b>	

**Second Reading Date: N/A**

**Date of Approval: 1/18/2023**

**Presidential Signature:**

**Whereas**, the WVU Student Government Association’s mission statement reads, “We, the students of West Virginia University, desire to preserve within our University and the Student Government Association, an atmosphere that helps to... ensure that the personal freedoms and general welfare of the students within our University are protected...”; and,

**Whereas**, West Virginia University’s Student Government Association is committed to prioritizing the interests and safety of the student body of West Virginia University; and,

**Whereas**, Senate Bill 10, the “Campus Self Defense Act,” contains provisions which would eliminate the authority of the institutional boards of governors to restrict or regulate the carrying of concealed pistols or revolvers in certain circumstances or areas of an institution of higher education; and,

**Whereas**, Senate Bill 10, the “Campus Self Defense Act,” contains provisions which would create exceptions to concealed carry on higher education campuses including: at an organized event taking place at a stadium or arena with a capacity of more than 1,000 spectators, at a daycare facility located on the property of the state institution of higher education, at the specific location of a formal disciplinary or grievance hearing for a student or an employee of a state institution of higher education taking place on the campus and in the buildings of the state institution of higher education, in specifically designated areas in which patient-care or mental health counseling is being provided, and in on-campus residence halls, except common areas such as lounges, dining areas, and study areas, and other exceptions<sup>1</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, West Virginia University’s Student Government Association has an elected representative on the Board of Governors for West Virginia University; and,

**Whereas**, West Virginia University’s Student Government Association has a productive collaborative relationship with the University’s Board of Governors; and,

**Whereas**, West Virginia University’s Student Government Association trusts the University’s Board of Governors to be the primary decision maker on important rules relating to campus safety; and,

**Whereas**, in the 2008 case of *District of Columbia v. Heller* Justice Antonin Scalia wrote in the majority opinion, “The Court’s opinion should not be taken to cast doubt on longstanding prohibitions on... laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools and government buildings...<sup>2</sup>; and,

[https://www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill\\_Text\\_HTML/2023\\_SESSIONS/RS/bills/sb10%20intr.pdf](https://www.wvlegislature.gov/Bill_Text_HTML/2023_SESSIONS/RS/bills/sb10%20intr.pdf)<sup>2</sup>  
<https://www.law.cornell.edu/supct/html/07-290.ZS.html>

**Whereas**, at a October 4, 1824 Board of Visitors meeting for the University of Virginia, Founding Fathers Thomas Jefferson and James Madison were present along with four other members of the University of Virginia Board of Visitors to consider rules relating to the conduct of students, including a rule which prohibited the allowance of firearms on the campus <sup>3</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, Jefferson and Madison’s support of the rule prohibiting firearms on the campus provides valuable insight into the strong historical precedent of gun-free college campuses in the United States; and,

***Therefore, be it proclaimed by the Student Assembly of West Virginia University:***

**Section 1:** opposes the passage of any legislation which will end longstanding prohibitions on the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as college campuses.

**Section 2:** supports maintaining the autonomy of the University’s Boards of Governors to serve as the primary decision-maker for matters relating to the allowance of concealed carry .

**Section 3:** supports the position of the principal author of the Declaration of Independence and the principal author of the first ten amendments to the United States Constitution, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison, in opposition to the allowance of firearms on college campuses.

**Section 4:** acknowledges that SB10 in its current form takes legitimate and serious concerns from University officials into consideration.

**Section 5:** Upon passage and approval, this legislation shall be forwarded to:



**Mandates:**

E. Gordon Gee, President

The Honorable Jim Justice, Governor of West Virginia

The Honorable Craig Blair, President of the West Virginia State Senate

The Honorable Roger Hanshaw, Speaker of the West Virginia House of Delegates

The Honorable Mike Woelfel, Minority Leader of the West Virginia State Senate

The Honorable Doug Skaff, Minority Leader of the West Virginia House of Delegates

<sup>3</sup> <https://rotunda.upress.virginia.edu/founders/default.xqy?keys=FOEA-print-04-02-02-4598>

The Honorable Charles Trump, Senate Judiciary Chairman

The Honorable Moore Capito, House Judiciary Chairman

The Honorable Mike Oliverio, West Virginia State Senator District 13

The Honorable Mike Caputo, West Virginia State Senator District 13

Rob Alsop, Vice President of Strategic Initiatives

Travis Mollohan, Director of Government Relations

G. Corey Farris, Dean of Students

Sean Manning, News and Information Manager

Chloe Hernandez, Student Body President

Morgan Donate, SGA Executive Secretary

Daily Athenaeum

Dr. Thanh Le, Director, Student Engagement and Leadership, SGA

Advisor Dr. Scott Wayne, WVU Faculty Senate Chair

Sindupa de Silva, President of WVU Graduate and Professional Student Senate

West Virginia University  
The Student Assembly - Student Government Association  
Assembly Bill: AB-2023-01-01

**AN ASSEMBLY BILL TO AMEND THE STUDENT  
GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION**

<b>Short Title:</b>	<b>Impeachment Process Reforms</b>
<b>Author(s):</b>	<b>Azeem Khan, President Pro Tempore</b>
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	<b>Quinn Wooten, College Senator (Eberly) Devin Price, Senator Emily Whalen, Senator Madison Santmyer, Senator Maria Amores, Senator</b>
<b>Contributor(s):</b>	<b>Charlie Long, Attorney General Sohan Daniel, Treasurer Sophia Flower, Chief of Staff of Internal Affairs</b>
<b>Committee Endorsement:</b>	<b>Governing Documents Review Committee</b>
<b>First Reading Date:</b>	<b>1/18/22</b>
<b>Second Reading Date:</b>	<b>1/25/22</b>
<b>Date of Approval:</b>	
<b>Presidential Signature:</b>	

**Whereas**, according to Article II, Section I of the Student Government Association (SGA) Constitution, “The WVU student body endorses and grants to the West Virginia University Student Government Association the powers as enumerated in this Constitution.”; and

**Whereas**, according to Article XI, Section I of the Student Government Association (SGA) Constitution, “Any proposed amendment and changes to this

Constitution that meet the requirements in Article 11.2 shall be voted upon by the student body in a special election following the guidelines of the Election Code.”; and

**Whereas**, according to Article V, Section III of the SGA Bylaws, the purpose of the Governing Documents Review Committee is to, “Critically evaluate the relevance and purpose of this organization’s governing documents”; and,

**Whereas**, upon evaluation of the SGA Constitution, the members of the Governing Documents Review Committee collectively voted on the following proposed amendments; and,

***Therefore, be it enacted by the Student Assembly of West Virginia University:***

**Section 1:** The following amendments set forth by the Governing Documents Review Committee shall be voted on by the student body in the spring election:

Article 10.2.1b Shall be Amended as:

~~“b. Impeachment Proceedings~~

- ~~1. Impeachment Proceedings may be brought forward by any member of the Assembly for a public reading at an SGA General Meeting, provided that the Article(s) of Impeachment meet(s) all requirements set forth in this Constitution.~~
- ~~2. After a second public reading at an SGA General Meeting, which shall not occur within five (5) academic days of the first reading, the Article(s) of Impeachment may be approved by a vote of more than half (1/2) of the members present. Upon approval, the Articles shall be delivered to the Judicial Court.”~~

“b. Impeachment Proceedings

1. Impeachment Proceedings may be brought forward by any member of the Assembly for a public reading at an SGA General Meeting, provided that the Articles of Impeachment are presented in the form of a bill, as detailed in Article 8.4. Each Article of Impeachment contained within the bill shall be voted on separately at the conclusion of an Impeachment Inquiry. All

- authors and sponsors of this bill shall be considered Impeachment Managers for the purposes of the bill's specific Impeachment Inquiry.
2. Impeachment Inquiries must be chaired by a Judicial Court Justice selected by the Chief Justice of the Judicial Court. Inquiries shall follow a modified version of the trial procedures set forth in Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised (12th Ed.) 63:30-63:34 guided by the procedures and powers authorized in this Constitution. The accused party in all Impeachment Inquiries shall unequivocally have the right to be represented by the representative of their choice during the trial proceedings.
  3. A second public reading of the Inquiry, following the same format as the first reading, shall be held at an SGA General Meeting, and it shall not occur within five (5) academic days of the first reading. The Article(s) of Impeachment may be approved by a majority vote of all Assembly members present. If the Assembly votes to approve these Articles following a plea of not guilty, they shall be delivered to the Judicial Court. If the accused enters a plea of guilty at the beginning of the trial, the Articles shall be immediately delivered to the Judicial Court without an Assembly Inquiry."

Article 10.2.2c Shall be Amended as:

~~"c. The Judicial court may remove an impeached official from office by a vote of two thirds (2/3) of the members present."~~

"c. The Judicial Court may remove an impeached official from office by a vote of two thirds (2/3) of the members present. The Justice serving as the chair of the Assembly's Impeachment Inquiry shall be disqualified from this vote."

**Section 2:** Upon passage and approval, this legislation shall be forwarded to:

**Mandates**

G. Corey Farris, Dean of Students

Sabrina Cave, Executive Director, Student Enrichment

Dr. Thanh Le, Director, Student Engagement and Leadership

(Advisor) Chloe Hernandez, Student Body President

Morgan Donate, SGA Executive Secretary

Daily Athenaeum

Charlie Long, Interim SGA Elections Chair

Sean Manning, News and Information Manager

West Virginia University  
The Student Assembly - Student Government Association  
Assembly Resolution: AR-2023-01-01  
**AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION TO IMPLEMENT RECYCLING  
EDUCATION FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS**

<b>Short Title:</b>	<b>Recycling Education</b>
<b>Author(s):</b>	<b>Jillian Blair, College Senator (Davis)</b>
<b>Sponsor(s):</b>	<b>Garrett Oursler, College Senator (Davis) Daniel Madden, College Senator (Chambers) Garrison Phillips, College Senator (Eberly) Devin Price, Senator</b>
<b>Contributor(s):</b>	<b>Matthew Olivero, Intern Zachariah Backus, Intern Coordinator Megan Skean, Former College Senator (Eberly) Ryan Hammond, Intern</b>
<b>Committee</b>	<b>Sustainability Committee</b>
<b>Endorsement: First</b>	<b>01/18/2023</b>
<b>Reading Date:</b>	
<b>Second Reading Date:</b>	

**Whereas**, the West Virginia University Student Government Association (SGA) vision statement reads, “To be a Student Government Association that serves the students, West Virginia University, and the State of West Virginia by;...enhancing environmental stewardship...and developing innovative partnerships with students, faculty, staff and other key stakeholders”<sup>1</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, the West Virginia University position on sustainability states, “West

Virginia University is committed to ensuring a more sustainable future for its students, faculty,

<sup>1</sup> <https://sga.wvu.edu/about/our-mission>

and staff, and for the citizens of West Virginia”<sup>2</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, recycling is beneficial both for the conservation of land and natural resources, as well as the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions<sup>3,4</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, West Virginia University experienced a 34% decrease in collected single-stream recyclables between FY19 and FY22<sup>5</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, of respondents to the 2022 Sustainability Survey, 76% responded that they had an ‘average’, ‘poor’, or ‘terrible’ understanding of recycling services on campus<sup>6</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, of respondents to the aforementioned survey, 85% responded that they would be ‘extremely likely’ or ‘somewhat likely’ to utilize campus recycling options if more information was made available to the students<sup>6</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, a plurality (27%) of respondents were first-year students<sup>6</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, almost all first-year students are required to live in WVU residence halls<sup>7</sup>; and,

**Whereas**, the habits and culture developed in students’ first year on campus are likely to influence their beliefs and actions for the rest of their college careers.

***Therefore, be it resolved by the Student Assembly of West Virginia University:***

**Section 1:** encourages WVU to continue and strengthen its efforts to advance the cause of sustainability and the increased utilization of recycling, in particular.

**Section 2:** encourages the University to implement recycling education into the New Student Orientation (NSO) process, both through events such as Destination WVU and regularly scheduled tours, as well as the in-person NSO process.



<sup>2</sup> <https://sustainability.wvu.edu/about-us>

<sup>3</sup>

[https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-11/documents/rei\\_report\\_508\\_compliant.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-11/documents/rei_report_508_compliant.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.un.org/en/chronicle/article/ecology-recycling>

<sup>5</sup> See Appendix

<sup>6</sup> <https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1HAMjOfy9raZzgX5UQmjG0A2RNdipSQ6U>

<sup>7</sup> <https://housing.wvu.edu/future-residents/first-year-live-on-requirement>

**Section 3:** encourages the University to bolster the Residence Hall recycling program, through the implementation of common-area signage, as well as by encouraging Resident Assistants to explain to their residents the available WVU recycling options and the benefits of participating.

**Section 4:** upon passage and approval, this legislation shall be forwarded to:

**Mandates:**

G. Corey Farris, Dean of Students

Dr. Patricia Cendana, Executive Director of Student Services and Residence

Life Dr. Chris Macdonald, Executive Director of Housing

Eric M. O'Hara, Associate Director, Housing Operations

Jamie Kosik, Associate Vice President, Facilities Management

Traci Knabenshue, Director, Office of Sustainability

Joseph Cook, Director of Admissions and Operations

Sean Manning, News and Information Manager

Dr. Thanh Le, Director, Student Engagement and Leadership

(Advisor) Chloe Hernandez, Student Body President

Morgan Donate, Executive Secretary

Daily Athenaeum

West Virginia University  
The Student Assembly - Student Government Association  
Assembly Resolution: AR-2023-01-01

**APPENDIX**



**Traci Knabenshue**

to me ▾

Hi Matthew,

Here are the single stream numbers.

Single Stream Only

FY18	392
FY19	451
FY20	330 (Pandemic began)
FY21	234
FY22	298 (about 3,200 fewer daily campus users than FY19)

Thanks,

Traci

Above: Single-Stream Recycling Data From FY18 to FY22

West Virginia University  
The Student Assembly - Student Government  
Association Financial Bill: FB-2023-01  
January 18, 2023

As referred by the Bureau of Finance

**An Act**

Making grant appropriations for various student organizations on behalf of the West Virginia University Student Government Association.

***Be it enacted by the Student Assembly of the West Virginia University Student Assembly:***

That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Student Government Association Grants to Student Organizations account and not otherwise appropriated, for the Student Organizations listed below for the Spring 2023 Semester per the official WVU Academic Calendar.

**Table of Contents**

**TITLE I: Asian Association 2 TITLE II: Asian Association 2 TITLE III: WVU American Choral Directors Association 3 TITLE IV: Ukrainian Mountaineer Association 3 TITLE V: Sport & Exercise Psychology Club 4 TITLE VI: WVU Pershing Rifles 4 TITLE VII: WVU Pershing Rifles 5 TITLE VIII: Student Dance Association 5 APPENDIX A 6 APPENDIX B 6**

**TITLE I: *Asian Association***

For expenses to cover catering from Fresh Mint for an organization meeting on February 6th, 2023.

<b><i>Asian Association</i></b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Catering	\$250.00	<b>\$250.00</b>

**TITLE II: *Asian Association***

For expenses to cover catering from Casa Di Amici for an organization meeting on March 6th, 2023.

<b><i>Asian Association</i></b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Catering	\$150.00	<b>\$150.00</b>

2

**TITLE III: *WVU American Choral Directors Association***

For expenses cover partial lodging to attend the American Choral Directors Association National Conference in Cincinnati, OH from February 23-25, 2023.

<b><i>WVU American Choral Directors Association</i></b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost

Partial Lodging **\$1643.75 \$1643.75**

**TITLE IV: *Ukrainian Mountaineer Association***

For expenses to cover an Honorarium for guest speaker Volodymyr Dubovy and catering Pizza for a lecture on February 8th, 2023.

<b><i>Ukrainian Mountaineer Association</i></b>	
Item	Quantity Cost
Honorarium	\$400.00
Pizza	\$100.00
	<b>\$500.00</b>

3

**TITLE V: *Sport & Exercise Psychology Club***

For expenses to cover lodging to attend the Midwest Sport and Exercise Psychology Symposium in Muncie, Indiana from February 17th to 18th, 2023.

<b><i>Sport &amp; Exercise Psychology Club</i></b>	
Item	Quantity Cost
Lodging 5 Room 2 Nights	<b>\$1461.70 \$1461.70</b>

**TITLE VI: *WVU Pershing Rifles***

For expenses to cover registration and lodging for the Natcon Annual Competition March 9th through 12th, 2023.

<b>WVU Pershing Rifle</b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Registration	12 Registrations	\$1188.00
Lodging	1 Room 3 Nights	\$390.00
		<b>\$1578.00</b>

4

**TITLE VII: WVU Pershing Rifles**

For expenses related to supplies for performing drills.

<b>WVU Pershing Rifles</b>		
Item	Quantity	Cost
Carriers	2	\$51.86
Wood Polish	4	\$80.00
		<b>\$131.86</b>

**TITLE VIII: Student Dance Association**

For expenses related to cover Lodging to attend the American College

Dance Association Conference in Sweet Water, VA from March 10th to 12th, 2023.

<b><i>Student Dance Association</i></b>	
Item	Quantity Cost
Partial Lodging	3 Rooms 4 Nights \$1643.75 <b>\$1643.75</b>

5

## APPENDIX A

### *Financial Bill Total Allocation Amount*

<b><i>Financial Bill 2023-01 Totals</i></b>	
Organization Total Cost	WVU Asian Association
	\$250.00
WVU Asian Association	\$150.00
WVU American Choral Directors Association	\$1,643.75
Ukrainian Mountaineer Association	\$500.00
Sport & Exercise Psychology Club	\$1,461.70
WVU Pershing Rifles	\$1,578.00
WVU Pershing Rifles	\$131.86
Student Dance Association	\$1,643.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,359.06</b>



## APPENDIX B

### *Requested Amounts Per Organization*

#### ***Financial Bill 2023-01 Totals***

Organization	Total Grant Requested	Total Suggested
Psychology Club WVU	\$1,461.70	\$1,616.00
WVU Asian Association Pershing Rifles	\$131.86	\$6,238.40
WVU Asian Association WVU Pershing Rifles	\$250.00	\$150.00
WVU American Choral Student Dance	\$1,643.75	\$500.00
Directors Assoc. Ukrainian Association	\$1,461.70	\$1,578.00
Mountaineer Organization	\$250.00	\$150.00
Sport & Exercise	\$7,782.66	\$500.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,130.62</b>	<b>\$7,359.06</b>