

West Virginia University
The Student Assembly - Student Government Association
Assembly Proclamation: AP-2025-11-01
**An Assembly Proclamation To Recommend That the West Virginia
State Legislature Work to Restore the Student
Vote on Governing Boards at All Public West Virginia Higher Education
Institutions**

Short Title: Recommendation to Reinstate the Student Vote at Higher Education Institutions

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Paige Tuttle, College Senator (Eberly)
Ella Mehring, College Senator (CAHS)
Catherine Evans, College Senator (HSC)
Tris Silva, At-Large Senator
Andrew O'Neal, At-Large Senator
Dominic Scott, College Senator (CCAM)
Gracey Champ, At-Large Senator
Jake Rogers, At-Large Senator
Cheyenne Torres, At-Large Senator
Ava Hill, College Senator (Statler)
Emily Howell, At-Large Senator
Gabriella Selders, College Senator (HSC)
Peyton Bielinski, College Senator (CAHS)
Ashlynn Traylor, College Senator (Davis)
Zadie Worley, College Senator (Eberly)
Julia Schmidt, College Senator (Eberly)
Hank Poole, College Senator (Chambers)
Bryan Cole, Senator
Sydney Hickle, At-Large Senator

Alex Tadros, College Senator (Statler)
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Peter Qian, College Senator (Eberly)
Kaelen Armstrong, College Senator (Statler)
Ayaan Shaik, College Senator (HSC)
Gabriel Flanagan, College Senator (CCAM)

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Committee Endorsement: Campus Connection Committee

First Reading Date: November 9th, 2025

Second Reading Date: December 3rd, 2025

Date of Approval: December 3rd, 2025

Presidential Signature:



Whereas, the West Virginia State Legislature and the Governor of West Virginia have long demonstrated their commitment to advancing quality and affordable higher education across the State of West Virginia; and

Whereas, the members of the West Virginia State Legislature continue to dedicate themselves to strengthening the state's students, ensuring that West Virginia's young people are prepared to lead in a competitive and challenging world; and

Whereas, students are the primary stakeholders in higher education, and their perspectives are essential to the success of institutional governance and the development of policies that directly impact the day to day lives of students; and

Whereas, the student voting member historically provided valuable insight, representation, and an understanding of issues affecting students from all walks of life

to the university governing boards, strengthening the partnership between students, administrators, and state leaders; and

Whereas, reinstating the student vote on their respective Board of Governors or Trustees would reaffirm West Virginia's proud tradition of empowering tomorrow's leaders, promoting civic engagement, and fostering shared beliefs and ideas between state institutions and those they serve;

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

Section 1: That the Student Government Association, on behalf of the students of West Virginia University, respectfully recommends that the West Virginia State Legislature consider and support legislation restoring the student voting position on all University Boards of Governors or Trustees; and

Section 2: That this body commends the members of the West Virginia State Legislature for their service, forward-thinking leadership, and continued advocacy for the future of higher education and the students of the great State of West Virginia.

Section 3: Upon passage and approval, this legislation shall be forwarded to:

Mandates:

West Virginia University President Michael T. Benson

Senate President Randy Smith

House Speaker Roger Hanshaw

State Delegate Anitra Hamilton

State Delegate John Williams

State Delegate Joe Statler

State Delegate Geno Chiarelli

State Delegate Evan Hansen

State Delegate David McCormick

State Delegate Lori Dittman

State Senator Charles H. Clements

State Senator Chris Rose

State Senator Joey Garcia

State Senator Michael Oliverio

State Senator Jay Taylor

State Senator Amy Grady

Carrie Showalter, Dean of Students

Gary Furbee, Vice President of Student Life

Dr. Thanh Le, Director, Student Engagement and Leadership (Advisor)

Colin Street, Student Body President

Rozaireo Jones, Student Body Vice President

Emma Davis, Executive Secretary

Shelby Davis, Historian

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