

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS

Session CXI

General Body Meeting

7:00 pm, Tuesday, April 9, 2024

Dale 103

Call to Order

Opening Roll Call

Mission Statement: The mission of the University of Oklahoma Student Government Association Undergraduate Student Congress is to represent the interests of undergraduate students in their pursuit of academic and individual achievement. The Undergraduate Student Congress is committed to building a strong campus community, promoting civic engagement, and enhancing the quality of the undergraduate experience at the University of Oklahoma.

Moment of Silence: 20 Second Moment of Silence to allow an opportunity for reflection.

Approval of Minutes | April 2, 2024

Officer Reports -

- **Chair's Report:**
- **Vice Chair's Report:**
- **Secretary's Report:**

Committee Reports-

- **Campus Outreach, Safety, and Concerns:**
- **Congressional Administration:**
- **External Affairs:**
- **Human Diversity:**
- **Sustainability:**
- **University Policy:**
- **Ways and Means:**

Liaison Reports

Special Orders

- OK Votes Presentation

Student Concern Link

Items to Be Considered

- CB-111-14 "Expulsion Bill No. 2" (Exec, No Rec) (Berggren)
- CB-111-15 "Expulsion Bill No. 3" (Exec, No Rec) (Berggren)
- CR-111-08 "Red River Holiday Act of 2024" (Exec, Do Pass) (Glasscock/Mortazavi/Halsey-Kraus/Burch/Tramel)
- CR-111-09 "The Protection of Student Voting Rights Resolution" (Wolthius)
- CR-111-10 "Get OK to Vote Resolution" (Halsey-Kraus)

Follow-Up Reports
Announcements and Comments
Final Roll Call
Adjourn

Chair: Abby Halsey-Kraus
Vice-Chair: Amelia Landry
Secretary: Carolyn Berggren

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXI

April 9, 2024

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-111-14

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Act of Procedure expelling an associate from the Congressional Body; providing short title; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS:

Section 1: Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Expulsion Bill No. 2.”

Section 2: Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to expel members for excessive unexcused absences. Anayat Yousef has accrued excessive unexcused absences, the membership of the aforementioned is pending expulsion.

Section 3: In accordance with Section 3.4, subsection 2, subsection e of the SGA Undergraduate Student Congress Bylaws, “*Upon accruing a forth absence, the Student Congress Secretary shall prepare an act of procedure to expel any member or committee officer who has accrued excessive unexcused absences.*”

Expulsion: Anayat Yousef

Section 4: This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Secretary Carolyn Berggren, Undergraduate Student Congress

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Congress

Verified by Chair: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXI

April 9, 2024

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CB-111-15

AS INTRODUCED

A Congressional Act of Procedure expelling an associate from the Congressional Body; providing short title; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS:

- Section 1:** Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Expulsion Bill No. 3.”
- Section 2:** Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to expel members for excessive unexcused absences. Hudson Bell has accrued excessive unexcused absences, the membership of the aforementioned is pending expulsion.
- Section 3:** In accordance with Section 3.4, subsection 2, subsection e of the SGA Undergraduate Student Congress Bylaws, *“Upon accruing a forth absence, the Student Congress Secretary shall prepare an act of procedure to expel any member or committee officer who has accrued excessive unexcused absences.”*
- Expulsion: Hudson Bell
- Section 4:** This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): Secretary Carolyn Berggren, Undergraduate Student Congress

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Congress

Verified by Chair: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXI

April 9, 2024

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GS24

April 11, 2024

CONGRESSIONAL BILL CR-111-08
SENATE BILL GS24-XX

AS INTRODUCED

An Act submitting the Fall 2024 Unscheduled Holiday;
providing for short title, providing for codification, and
providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT
ASSOCIATION:

Section 1: Title: This act shall be known and may be cited as the “Red River Holiday Act of 2024.”

Section 2: Purpose: The purpose of this act shall be to officially submit an unscheduled holiday to the University of Oklahoma President, Joseph Harroz Jr., for approval pursuant to Section 5.15 of the Board of Regents policy manual.

Section 3: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association officially submits Friday, October 11, 2024, as the Fall 2024 Student Holiday.

Section 4: This act shall become effective when passed in accordance with the SGA Constitution.

Author(s): President Caden Glasscock, Student Government Association
Vice President Cyrus Mortazavi, Student Government Association
Chair Abby Halsey-Kraus, Undergraduate Student Congress
Chair Claire Burch, Graduate Student Senate
Chair Catherine Tramel, Campus Activities Council

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Congress:

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a Motion by:

Action taken by Senate

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXI

April 9, 2024

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GS24

April 11, 2024

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-111-09
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS24-XX

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution encouraging the implementation of the day off from school on Election Day; and providing for distribution.

- Whereas: The 2020 student voting rate at The University of Oklahoma was 63.5%; and,
- Whereas: The University of Oklahoma saw a 33% voter turnout increase for the 18-21 age group from the 2018 election to the 2020 election; and,
- Whereas: At 34%, the state of Oklahoma had the lowest youth voter turnout; and,
- Whereas: Between 2016 and 2020, universities saw an average voter turnout increase of 13%; and,
- Whereas: Universities such as the University of Cincinnati, Columbia University, the University of Kentucky, the University of South Carolina, and Clemson University recognize the importance of Election Day by allowing the day off school¹; and,
- Whereas: The Regent's Policy Manual for The University of Oklahoma, 12.3.1.1 *Unscheduled Holidays* currently states, "Undergraduate Student Congress and Graduate Student Senate shall have authority to recommend to the President one unscheduled school holiday in the Fall semester of each academic year with the understanding the recommendation of a holiday must be made to the President at least two weeks before the recommended date in order to allow time for adjusting teaching schedules and the like."²
- Whereas: As it stands there are no known current policies that allow students an excused absence from classes to go vote.

¹ "Map." *Day On Democracy*, www.dayondemocracy.org/map. Accessed 29 Mar. 2024.

² "Policy and Procedure Manual." *12.3.1.1 Unscheduled Holidays v.1*, universityok.navexone.com/content/dotNet/documents/?docid=271&public=true. Accessed 4 Apr. 2024.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS AND THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

Section 1: Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the “The Protection of Student Voting Rights Resolution.”

Section 2: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association encourages the Board of Regents to allow Election Day to be an additional unscheduled holiday every four years on Election Day, scheduled in concurrence with the federal general election.

Section 3: If passed, The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association also recommends a change to the Regents’ Unscheduled Holiday Policy.

Section 4: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- Chairman Eric Stevenson, OU Board of Regents
- Vice Chairwoman Anita L. Holloway, OU Board of Regents
- Regent Natalie Shirley, OU Board of Regents
- Regent Rick Nagel, OU Board of Regents
- Regent Robert J. Ross, OU Board of Regents
- Regent John R. Braught, OU Board of Regents
- President Joseph Harroz Jr., University of Oklahoma
- Sean Burrage, OU Executive Vice President & Chief of Staff
- David A. Surratt, OU Vice President for Student Affairs
- Faith Martin, Oklahoma Votes

Author(s): Ellie Wolthuis, Chief of Staff to SGA President

Co-Author(s): President Caden Glasscock, Student Government Association
Vice President Cyrus Mortazavi, Student Government Association
Chair Claire Burch, SGA Graduate Student Senate
Chair Abby Halsey-Kraus, SGA Undergraduate Student Congress
Chair Katie Tramel, Campus Activities Council

Co-Sponsor(s): Carter B. Strickland, SGA Director of the Interior
Avery Dunlap, SGA Director of the Exterior
Zoe Nguyen, SGA Director of Inclusivity
Natalie Armour, SGA Director of Communications

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Congress:

Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a motion by:

Action taken by Senate:

Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS
CONGRESSIONAL SESSION CXI

April 9, 2024

GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE
SENATE SESSION GS24

April 11, 2024

CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION CR-111-10
SENATE RESOLUTION NO. GS24-XX

AS INTRODUCED

A Concurrent Resolution recommending the University implement a polling location on campus for local, state, and federal elections; and providing for distribution.

Whereas: According to the National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement's (NSLVE) University of Oklahoma report in 2022, the campus voter turnout was 63.5% in the 2020 election;³ and

Whereas: The national voting rate for students was 66% in the 2020 election; and

Whereas: The voting barriers for students include "Young people are much more likely than older people to say they couldn't get off work to vote, [they] didn't receive their ballot in time, [they] missed the registration deadline, or [they] had trouble finding or accessing their polling place";⁴ and

Whereas: In the United States, 54% of American college students, amounting to 6.6 million students, did not have any voting option on their college campus in 2020;⁵ and

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT CONGRESS AND THE GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE, CONCURRING THEREIN THAT:

Section 1: Title: This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "Get OK to Vote Resolution."

Section 2: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association urges the University of Oklahoma, the Cleveland County Election Board, and the Oklahoma State Election Board to allow polling sites on campus for students, faculty, and staff to easily access voting on local, state, and federal voting days.

³ <https://allinchallenge.org/wp-content/uploads/University-of-Oklahoma-Action-Plan-2022-June.pdf>

⁴ <https://civication.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/College-Student-Voting-Fact-Sheet-1.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.campusvoteproject.org/post/a-study-on-campus-voting-access>

Section 3: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association believes hosting a polling site on campus would increase voter turnout on campus due to the accessible nature of the polling location as students, faculty, and staff would no longer leave campus to place their vote in elections.

Section 4: The University of Oklahoma Student Government Association recommends the University of Oklahoma collaborate with SGA and OK Votes when implanting such measures.

Section 5: Copies of this resolution will be sent to:

- President Joseph Harroz, The University of Oklahoma
- Dr. David Surratt, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students
- Faith Martin, Director of N.E.W. Leadership and Civic Engagement
- Michael Stoyak, OK Votes Civic Engagement Fellow
- Annie Mullins, OK Votes Civic Engagement Fellow
- OU Daily
- OU Nightly

Author: Chair Abby Halsey-Kraus, Undergraduate Student Congress

Co-Authors: President Caden Glasscock, Student Government Association
Vice President Cyrus Mortizavi, Student Government Association
Chair Claire Burch, Graduation Student Senate
Chair Katie Tramel, Campus Activities Council

Submitted on a motion by:
Action taken by Congress:
Verified by Chair of Congress: _____ Date: _____

Submitted on a motion by:
Action taken by Senate:
Verified by Chair of Senate: _____ Date: _____

Approved by SGA President: _____ Date: _____