



## LEGISLATIVE STEERING COMMITTEE

### BILL

**SPRING 2024 SESSION**

#### Constitution

#### Legislative Action:

Introduced by: **Justin Lauriano**

1st Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Referred To: \_\_\_\_\_

2nd Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Committee Action: \_\_\_\_\_

3rd Reading: \_\_\_\_\_

Council Action: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Executive Action:

☐ Approved ☐ Vetoed

\_\_\_\_\_  
GPSA President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Unsigned by the President on this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_ 2023. Bill automatically becomes law.

#### Legislative Response:

Veto override vote taken: \_\_\_\_\_

Council Action: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Summary of key points:

This proposed legislation addresses GPSA's dire financial situation in the present and future and seeks to protect GPSA's grantmaking ability which is currently being threatened.

#### Updates within this Bill:

- Seeks an upward adjustment of the current GPSA fee which has not been increased for two decades.
- Proposes a 5-year adjustment plan until it reaches the \$50 cap.
- Ends the regular removal of funds from the grant accounts.

#### Found in GPSA Constitution:

#### Article V. Finance

##### Section 1. Fees

Subject to authorization by the Board of Regents, a nonrefundable fee, henceforth referred to as the GPSA fee, shall be levied on all degree-seeking graduate and professional students. The University shall collect these fees and forward them immediately to the GPSA.

~~A. The GPSA fee shall not exceed twenty five dollars (\$25) per student per semester and any increase must be approved through a referendum and by the Board of Regents.~~

**The GPSA fee shall be forty dollars (\$40) per student per semester beginning in Fall of 2024. It shall then increase every fall semester by two dollars (\$2) per academic year for**

Key: Bold text = new wording

Non-bold text = original wording

Strikeout = eliminated language

Comment = New Comment margin note preferred. May also put text in red

47 **the next five years until it reaches the fifty-dollar (\$50) cap, and any increase shall be**  
48 **subject to approval through a referendum and by the Board of Regents.**  
49

50 **B.** Five percent (5%) of the total collected GPSA fees are taken by the University in the form of  
51 an accounting fee payable to the Student Government Accounting Office (SGAO). The  
52 remainder of the total is added to the General Fund.

53 **C. The GPSA funds from GPSA agencies or branches shall be considered balance**  
54 **forwards.**

55 **D.** Purpose: Collected fees shall be allocated by the GPSA Council to fund the general GPSA  
56 government and to benefit chartered student organizations and graduate and professional  
57 students through GPSA Committees and Council.  
58  
59

### 60 **Section 3: GPSA Budget**

61 A. This budget shall be based upon the anticipated revenue for the upcoming fiscal year as  
62 determined by SGAO.

63 B. All branches of the GPSA government must follow budget processes as defined by the GPSA  
64 Constitution, Bylaws, and applicable standing rules to be eligible for funding.

65 C. A final budget must be approved no later than the April council meeting.

66 D. Forty percent (40%) of the GPSA budget shall be reserved for the Pro-Rated Benefits Fund. E.  
67 No less than ten percent (10%) of the total GPSA budget shall be allocated to the Grants Committee  
68 as Student Research Grants and Professional Development Grants.

69 F. No less than five percent (5%) of the GPSA budget shall be reserved for appropriations.

70 ~~G. Funds not appropriated through the budget process shall be placed in the General Fund.~~

71 H. Council shall have the authority to determine the process of reversion of funds allocated through  
72 the budget.