F16RS SGB No. 2 (Graduate School Senate Seats)

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A BILL

TO AMEND THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTION IN REGARDS TO REAPPORTIONING VACANT GRADUATE SCHOOL SEATS

PARAGRAPH 1: WHEREAS, THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTION CALLS FOR AN EQUAL APPORTIONING OF SENATE SEATS BASED ON ENROLLMENT IN INDIVIDUAL ACADEMIC AREAS; AND

PARAGRAPH 2: WHEREAS, ARTICLE III SECTION 5 OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTION CURRENTLY STATES:

Apportionment of the Student Senate shall be as follows:

A. Every Academic Area shall have a base of two (2) Student Senators, regardless of enrollment numbers;
B. By the twentieth (20th) class day of each fall semester, the number of Student Senators shall be adjusted so that each Academic Area receives an additional Senator for every five hundred (500) students enrolled without rounding.
C. Apportionment shall be based on the official university full-time and part-time enrollment figures for that particular fall semester. This apportionment shall be performed by the Speaker of the Student Senate, and must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Student Senate. This apportionment shall become effective upon the call to order of the Student Senate Fall Organizational Session;
D. Reapportionment or the discontinuation of any Academic Area shall not affect the term of office of any duly elected and installed member of the Student Senate;
E. Half of the total number of Senators from each Academic Area will be elected in the fall semester and half will be elected in the spring semester, for a term of one (1) year. In the event of an odd number of Senators, there shall be one (1) more seat available in the Spring election than in the Fall election.

PARAGRAPH 3: WHEREAS, GRADUATE SCHOOL SEATS ARE TRADITIONALLY VACANT, AND THERE ARE MORE UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS VYING FOR A POSITION THAN SEATS AVAILABLE; AND

PARAGRAPH 4: WHEREAS, THIS AMENDMENT ACTS AS AN EFFECTIVE ALTERNATIVE TO THE CURRENT APPORTIONMENT OF SEATS, AS THE GRADUATE SCHOOL HAD TEN (10) VACANCIES IN THE 2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR, AND EIGHT (8) VACANCIES IN THE CURRENT YEAR; AND
PARAGRAPH 5: WHEREAS, restructuring the apportionment of seats would lead to better representation of the student body by senators; and

PARAGRAPH 6: WHEREAS, the LSU Student Senate recommends amending paragraph b of Article III Section 5 of the Constitution to the following:

By the twentieth (20th) class day of each fall semester, the number of Student Senators shall be adjusted so that each Academic Area receives an additional Senator for every five hundred (500) students enrolled without rounding. The Graduate School will receive three (3) dedicated Student Senators. The seats allotted to them, if not filled on the date applications close, shall be opened to the other Academic Areas based on the number of graduate students studying in those fields, and shall be allowed to be filled by undergraduate students.

PARAGRAPH 7: THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTION BE AMENDED IN REGARDS TO REAPPORTIONING VACANT GRADUATE SCHOOL SEATS, AND

PARAGRAPH 8: BE IT RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION BE TRANSMITTED TO KURT KEPPLER, VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS, MARI FUENTES-MARTIN, DEAN OF STUDENTS, MICHELLE LOWERY, STUDENT GOVERNMENT ADVISOR, ZACK FAIRCLOTH, STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT, AND VERNON DUNN, GRADUATE SCHOOL PRESIDENT

PARAGRAPH 9: THIS AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION SHALL TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE BY A TWO-THIRDS (2/3) VOTE OF THE LSU STUDENT SENATE AND SIGNATURE BY THE PRESIDENT, UPON LAPSE OF TIME FOR PRESIDENTIAL ACTION, OR IF VETOED BY THE PRESIDENT AND SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY THE SENATE, ON THE DATE OF SUCH APPROVAL, AND BE FURTHER RATIFIED BY A MAJORITY OF THE STUDENTS VOTING IN A CAMPUS-WIDE ELECTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT.

APPROVED:

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ALEX DE GRAVELLE                ZACHARY A. FAIRCLOTH
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE            STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

DATE:___________________________  DATE:___________________________