ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION

BILL NO. 54-37
INTRODUCED BY: VanHuyse SECOND BY: Greenleaf

A BILL TO: A bill to support an amendment to Michigan’s constitution for the purpose of procuring a student vote on Michigan State University’s Board of Trustees

Whereas, with the recent revelations concerning Larry Nassar and, more broadly, the abhorrent issue of sexual assault in our society persisting on Michigan State University’s campus; and,

Whereas, following this acknowledgement, students have partially concerned themselves with the notion that issues they face on campus are not addressed by the highest leadership at the university- the Board of Trustees; and,

Whereas, in light of the Board of Trustees’ actions within the recent months and their lack of transparency and consultation with student leaders, there is a clear need for students to have adequate representation in the highest levels of university governance, which is not provided by a non-voting student liaison; and,

Whereas, many universities across the nation, including other Big Ten Universities, recognize the necessity of student vote on their university’s Board of Trustees; and,

Whereas, under provision of Article 8, Section 5 of Michigan’s constitution, the Board of Trustees for Michigan State University shall consist of eight elected individuals to serve as the university’s governing body; and,

Whereas, students and faculty have expressed the sentiment that a student vote would be beneficial to ensure that the Board of Trustees and Michigan State University adequately represent and understand students concern; therefore, be it,

Resolved, that ASMSU advocates for a constitutional amendment to be added to Michigan’s constitution which reserves at least one voting position on Michigan State University’s Board of Trustees for current Michigan State University students; and, therefore be it finally,

Resolved, that reserved positions be filled through a scrutinized application process and end with the appointments of students to the position by the Governor of Michigan.

INTRODUCED ON Feb.22.2018
REFERRED TO Policy
SPECIAL ACTION TAKEN Sent to GA DATE Mar.01.2018
Appendix:

Seven out of fourteen (7/14) other universities in the Big10 Conference have at LEAST one student representative on the Board of Trustees.

Those that do:
- Illinois
  - 3 student trustees, 1 gets a vote; elected by student body
- Indiana
  - 1 student trustee, governor-appointed, gets a vote; governor appointed
- Iowa
  - 1 trustee, gets a vote; board oversees three IA universities; governor appointed
- Nebraska
  - 4 student trustees, none with a vote.
  - all student body presidents from each campus
- Ohio State
  - 2 trustees (1 Grad, 1 Undergrad); both vote; appointed by governor
- Penn State
  - 1 Trustee, elected by Board, votes
- Rutgers
  - 3 charter trustees who vote (2 undergrad/1 grad), and 11 reps who do not vote. I believe they are elected but not confident

Those that don’t:
- Maryland
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Northwestern
- Purdue
- Wisconsin
- (Michigan State)

Other Universities across Michigan: none currently with student Board members

Michigan Constitution:
University controlling boards
http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(y0laownfkpmhkvcwfyznz54uc))/mileg.aspx?page=getobject&objectname=mcl-Schedule-11&query=on