

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF
MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SIXTY-FIRST SESSION**



BILL NO. 61-07

INTRODUCED BY: Rodriguez (RCAH) SECONDED BY: Thorell (Broad)

CONTRIBUTORS: President Le, VPIA Harding

A BILL TO: Approve Public Comment Rules Drafted by the ASMSU President and VPIA

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACT:

WHEREAS, As written in the General Assembly Code of Operations, Title Two, Section 11, public comment rules are to be drafted by ASMSU President and VPIA and approved by the General Assembly; and,

WHEREAS, Public comment is an extremely vital component of the democratic process; and,

WHEREAS, To maintain a space that is safe, respectful, purposeful towards our vision, and to promote the health and wellness of all undergraduate Spartans and the democratic process, rules to manage public comment are vital to the Associated Students of Michigan State University; and,

WHEREAS, These guidelines are not meant to limit or restrict public comments, but to ensure our conversations are productive to the meeting at hand and groups or individuals are not targeted; and,

WHEREAS, We have an obligation to complete necessary scheduled business in a timely manner because we recognize that the ultimate goal as students attending the University must be education; therefore be it,

RESOLVED, The ASMSU General Assembly shall approve the public comment rules as follows:

1. To public comment, one must make that desire known by either submitting a comment through the form on the ASMSU website within 24 hours of the General Assembly meeting and/or simply raising their hand during the public comment portion of the

meeting. Should the public commenter be unable to attend, the ASMSU Vice President for Internal Administration will read their comment aloud at the relevant meeting.

2. Public commenters will be addressed in the order in which their desire to speak was made known. Those who submitted the form shall go first in the order in which they submitted, then those in attendance who did not submit the form shall be permitted to speak in the order they raised their hands.
3. Those from the public wishing to comment must begin their public comment by stating their name, their direct affiliation to Michigan State University, and the topic they are wishing to comment on.
 - a. If a speaker is representing or speaking on behalf of other persons, groups or entities, then the speaker shall state the nature of that representation.
 - b. Those with direct affiliation to Michigan State University that may public comment includes tax-paying students, faculty, staff, and alumni of Michigan State University.
4. Comments shall relate to either items specifically on the agenda or the business of ASMSU and undergraduate Spartans.
5. The time cap for each topic that may be publicly commented on is capped at fifteen (15) minutes unless a motion is passed by the General Assembly to extend that time for the specific topic.
 - a. Public commenters have three (3) minutes to speak, unless extended by a motion from the General Assembly.
6. Public commenters must address the Chair during the entire length of their comment.
7. Public commenters may not yield or give their speaking time to another person.
8. Those who have speaking privileges within a meeting are not permitted to speak during the public comment period on items that will be discussed further in the agenda.
 - a. Those who have speaking privileges within the General Assembly (Office of the President, Chief Officers, & General Assembly Representatives) may only ask clarifying questions of the public commenter if they are extremely pertinent.
9. Any public comment that has to deal with sensitive topics (violence, suicide, sexual misconduct, etc) must include a warning before the public comment is read/spoken.
10. Public commenters shall refrain from comments or behavior that involves:
 - a. Disorderly speech or action

- b. Name-calling or personal attacks
 - c. Obscene or indecent remarks
 - d. Derogatory comments on personalities
 - e. Any comment that goes against relevant parts of the ASMSU Manual (ex. Anti-Discrimination Clause) or these rules
11. If a public commenter is found in violation of these rules:
- a. Depending upon the extent of the indiscretion, they may first be interrupted and given a warning by the Chair.
 - b. If the indiscretion is continued after being warned, they will be interrupted again and their time will be given back to the Chair.
12. These rules shall be available on the ASMSU website with the form to submit public comments and made available per request at meetings.

INTRODUCED ON 8.29.24

REFERRED TO n/a COMMITTEE ON n/a

SPECIAL ACTION TAKEN _____ DATE _____

COMMITTEE ACTION	_____			
	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE	DATE

FINAL ACTION TAKEN	<u>X</u>		Voice Majority	<u>8.29.24</u>
	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE	DATE

	
PRESIDENT: Connor Le	VPIA: Kathryn Harding