

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



BILL NO. 61-86

**INTRODUCED BY: Zakaria (APASO)
(VPJA)**

SECONDED BY: Harding

CONTRIBUTORS: Hewlett-Lemke (TSSC), Shah (TSAB)

A BILL TO: Propose a Referendum on the Spring 2025 Election to Add a General Assembly Seat for the Transfer Student Advisory Board and Amend the ASMSU Constitution to Reflect this Seat Addition

THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY ENACT:

WHEREAS, Transfer Students make up more than 10% of the total student population at Michigan State University with one in every eight students being a transfer student¹ and more than 4,700 transfer students estimated from this past fall semester alone²; and,

WHEREAS, This number is expected to increase over the next couple of years, as many more students are entering community colleges before transferring to four-year institutions³, specifically after the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, It is crucial for the furthering of student voice to ensure that the increasing population of transfer students at MSU is adequately represented in the shaping of the student experience through major organizations such as ASMSU and involvement in any major decision-processes regarding student life on campus; and,

WHEREAS, Transfer Students currently only have the Transfer Student Advisory Board as a space to be involved in transfer-student-focused leadership, which currently lacks involvement and visibility on campus, and the addition of a Transfer Student

¹

https://msutoday.msu.edu/news/2025/paths-to-success-empowering-first-generation-transfer-students?sc_campaign=14CD019AFA0748EE8B69B95803741D92&utm_source=insidemsu-email&utm_medium=em&utm_campaign=standard-promo&utm_content=heading

² [Michigan State University - Profile, Rankings and Data | US News Best Colleges.](#)

³ [Enrollment rising for the first time since the pandemic](#)

Representative GA seat will bring greater visibility from the overall student body and transfer students as well; and,

WHEREAS, Transfer Students do not currently have a voice in the legislative process of ASMSU, although they make up such a large portion of the student body at MSU; and,

WHEREAS, The addition of a Transfer Student GA seat will allow for more diverse student groups to be involved in the legislative process of ASMSU, ensuring that previously unrepresented students have a voice, and thus contributing to a more well-rounded representation of the student body at MSU; and,

WHEREAS, Transfer students have unique perspectives and experiences distinct from traditional students, and allowing space for these experiences to be voiced within ASMSU can lead to legislation that specifically addresses and improves the transfer student experience; and,

WHEREAS, Transfer students are already acclimating to a new environment and university, which may make it more challenging for them to advocate for themselves through the typical MSU legislative processes and elections, therefore a specific seat would help address this disparity by providing a direct channel for their representation; and,

WHEREAS, The addition of a Transfer Student GA seat will also speak to a larger population of students at MSU and may increase student engagement in ASMSU, elections and overall campus involvement; therefore be it,

WHEREAS, Moreover, if a referendum passes for the upcoming Spring 2025 Election by the MSU undergraduate student body, Article IV of the ASMSU Constitution states that “Proposed amendments shall be brought to referendum of the membership of ASMSU at the regularly scheduled spring semester elections.”⁴; therefore be it,

RESOLVED, The Transfer Student Representative shall be elected by a transfer student body vote during the Transfer Student Advisory Board executive board elections; therefore be it further,

⁴  ASMSU Manual Rev. 10.24

RESOLVED, On the Spring 2025 Election Ballot, a referendum will be placed to determine whether a seat will be added to the General Assembly for a Transfer Student Representative; therefore be it further,

RESOLVED, The referendum question will be phrased as follows, “Should the ASMSU General Assembly add a Representative Seat for the Transfer Student Advisory Board to elect a Transfer Student Representative to serve as a voice for transfer students at MSU and reflect the ASMSU Constitution to reflect this addition?”; therefore be it further,

RESOLVED, That the ASMSU General Assembly will amend the ASMSU governing documents immediately following the passing of the referendum and will work with ASMSU Advisors and OOTP to reflect this change.

Undergraduate Student Elections Ballot Language

March 31 - April 4, 2025

Vote on the Associated Students of Michigan State University (“ASMSU”) Addition of General Assembly Seats for a Transfer Student Representative Referendum.

ASMSU General Assembly Proposal - General Assembly Seat Additions for Transfer Student Representative

Explanation: Transfer Students are a large number of the student population, with them constituting more than 10% of the student population as of Fall 2024, and with a population of more than 4,700 students. Transfer Students do not currently have voting privileges or representation within the ASMSU General Assembly, which is the legislative body of the organization. The General Assembly is currently composed of representatives elected from every academic college and CORES/CAMS groups.

Voting ‘yes’ means you support amending the ASMSU Governing Documents to add 1 General Assembly seat for a Transfer Student Representative. The Transfer Student Representative will be elected by a transfer student body vote through the same process for which the Transfer Student Advisory Board positions are elected. If you vote ‘no’, you support keeping the number of General Assembly seats the same, and transfer students will not receive representation and voting privileges within the ASMSU General Assembly.

Proposition: Should the ASMSU General Assembly add a Representative Seat for the Transfer Student Advisory Board to elect a Transfer Student Representative to serve as a voice for transfer students at MSU and reflect the ASMSU Constitution to reflect this addition?

(FROM)

Article II

Section 2. The General Assembly shall be composed of representatives from University colleges; one representative each for the racial, ethnic, and progressive student groups; and one representative each from the major governing groups.

- A. Each undergraduate degree granting college, as well as No-Preference Students, shall be represented on General Assembly according to the following scale:
 - 1-3000 students 2 representatives
 - 3001-6000 students 3 representatives
 - 6001+ students 4 representatives
- B. The following racial, ethnic, and progressive student groups shall be represented:
 - 1. Asian Pacific American Student Organization
 - 2. Black Student Alliance
 - 3. Culturas de las Razas Unidas
 - 4. North American Indigenous Student Organization
 - 5. Alliance of Queer and Ally Students
 - 6. Council of Students with Disabilities
 - 7. Women*s Council
 - 8. Arab Cultural Society
 - 9. International Student Association
 - 10. Jewish Student Union
 - 11. Student Veterans of America
 - 12. Campus Interfaith Council
 - 13. Muslim Student Association
- C. The following major governing groups shall be represented:
 - 1. Residence Hall Association
 - 2. Inter-Fraternity Council
 - 3. Panhellenic Council
 - 4. National Pan-Hellenic Council
 - 5. Spartan Housing Cooperative
 - 6. Multicultural Greek Council
 - 7. Other recognizable group(s)
 - i. Student Athlete Advisory Committee

(TO)

Article II

Section 2. The General Assembly shall be composed of representatives from University colleges; one representative each for the racial, ethnic, and progressive student groups; one representative each from the major governing groups.

- A. Each undergraduate degree granting college, as well as No-Preference Students, shall be represented on General Assembly according to the following scale:
 - 1-3000 students 2 representatives

- 3001-6000 students 3 representatives
 - 6001+ students 4 representatives
- B. The following racial, ethnic, and progressive student groups shall be represented:
1. Asian Pacific American Student Organization
 2. Black Student Alliance
 3. Culturas de las Razas Unidas
 4. North American Indigenous Student Organization
 5. Alliance of Queer and Ally Students
 6. Council of Students with Disabilities
 7. Women*s Council
 8. Arab Cultural Society
 9. International Student Association
 10. Jewish Student Union
 11. Student Veterans of America
 12. Campus Interfaith Council
 13. Muslim Student Association
- C. The following major governing groups shall be represented:
1. Residence Hall Association
 2. Inter-Fraternity Council
 3. Panhellenic Council
 4. National Pan-Hellenic Council
 5. Spartan Housing Cooperative
 6. Multicultural Greek Council
 7. Other recognizable group(s)
 - i. Student Athlete Advisory Committee
 - ii. **Transfer Student Advisory Board**

INTRODUCED ON 02.20.2025

REFERRED TO N/A COMMITTEE ON _____

SPECIAL ACTION TAKEN Floor Introduction DATE 02.20.2025

COMMITTEE ACTION	_____			
	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE	DATE

FINAL ACTION TAKEN	<u>X</u>	<u>26-1-4</u>	<u>02.20.2025</u>
	PASSED	FAILED	VOTE
			DATE



PRESIDENT: Connor Le



VPFA: Kathryn Harding