**Associated Student Government**

*University of Arkansas*

*ASG Senate Resolution No. 10*

Author(s): Senate Academics Committee

Sponsor(s): Senator Kathleen Bridgforth

**A Resolution to Support a Retroactive Withdrawal Policy**

Whereas, COVID-19 has continued to spread throughout the United States and through college campuses, without an indication of when a vaccine will be made available to the general public;

Whereas, COVID-19 has caused the University of Arkansas to offer remote-delivery and hybrid options for the Fall 2020 term, without requiring in-person attendance;

Whereas, components of student success such as attending class in-person and participating in-campus activities have not returned to normal, thus accommodations are needed in order to ensure academic success of students; and

Whereas, the progression of the COVID-19 pandemic has led students to experience increased challenges in their physical, mental and financial health that have resulted in effects such as family or personal illness, lack of motivation and overall stress;

Whereas, the University of Arkansas has not made any grading and/or class dropping policy changes for Fall 2020 to support students during this difficult academic time;

Whereas, the deadline for students to drop a course and take a “W” was Friday November 20th; and

Whereas, the University of Tennessee has created a retroactive withdrawal policy where students may apply to drop individual courses with a W after receiving a grade of C- or lower beginning mid-December and after final grades have been posted;

Be it therefore resolved: ASG supports that the University of Arkansas implements a retroactive withdrawal policy that would allow students to appeal for an individual course in which they wish to take a “W” instead of their current grade; and

Be it further resolved: Students would have to provide supporting documentation that identifies extenuating circumstances, caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, that negatively impacted their academic importance; and

Be it further resolved: Students would have the option to appeal for a retroactive withdrawal from December 7th until a week after final grades have been posted; students would only be able to appeal for a retroactive withdrawal in classes that the student received below a 70; and

Be it finally resolved: A copy of this legislation be sent to Provost Charles Robinson, Chancellor Joe Steinmetz, and Faculty Senate.

Amendments:

Vote Count: Aye 48 Nay 0 Abstentions 1

Legislation Status: Passed X Failed­ Other

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Caleb Parker, ASG Chair of the Senate Date

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Julia Nall, ASG President Date