University of Central Oklahoma Student Congress

12th Meeting of the Spring Session of the 25th Legislature

CB21-205 Authors: Senator Hammond, Senator Smith, Senator Owens

AS INTRODUCED

An act amending the UCO Student Association Statutes to adjust designation of seats for Councils, providing codification, providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, The UCO Student Association exists to represent the student body and express their interests, concerns, and opinions as a whole; and

WHEREAS, It is in the best interests of the UCO Student Body for the UCO Student Association to be comprised of senators who look like and represent the student population in which they represent; and

WHEREAS, Individuals of racial and ethnic minorities comprise nearly 50% of the UCO student population, but have a fraction of the representation in the UCO Student Association; and

WHEREAS, As organizations representing minority communities, these organizations deserve equitable and guaranteed representation in the UCO Student Association to effectively express the interests, concerns, and opinions of their representative communities; and

WHEREAS, As organizations representing minority communities, these organizations deserve equitable and guaranteed representation in the UCO Student Association to effectively express the interests, concerns, and opinions of their representative communities; and

WHEREAS, In recent years, the UCO Student Association has been criticized for their inaction in addressing and voicing concerns of students on imperative matters, especially those concerning discrimination and against minority communities; NOW THEREFORE

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UCO STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Section 1. This Act will be known as the Seat at the Table Act.

Section 2. The UCO Student Association Statutes, Title Two, Section 102, shall be amended to read as follows:

§102: Apportionment

The UCOSA Congress shall be made up of a total of forty-eight seats~~,~~ elected by the student body, with ten seats allocated to residential status, twenty-eight seats divided up by academic college, two seats to the graduate college, eight seats for Freshman Assembly~~,~~; in addition to ~~two~~ ten seats allocated between ~~to each of the four~~ councils receiving funding from UCOSA, as detailed in Section C, for a total of fifty-eight seats.

…

C. Each ~~of the~~ council that receives funding from UCOSA (International Student Council, Diversity Round Table, Sports Club Council and Student Engagement Council) ~~will~~ shall have ~~two~~ designated seats in Congress. The International Student Council, Sports Club Council, and Student Engagement Council shall each be designated two seats, and Diversity Round Table shall be designated four seats. Each Council will have the power to appoint its own Student Senators following its own internal rules but must be appointed by the time of the new Fall Legislative session. Should these seats not be filled by a Council by the beginning of the Fall Legislative session, Congressional exec may by a ⅔ vote fill those seats with members from other Councils as they see fit.

Section 3. This adjustment to congressional seats shall be enforced beginning the Fall Session of the 26th Legislature in Fall 2022.

Reviewing Committee(s): Accountability, Reform, and Transparency

Committee Recommendation: DO PASS

Action Taken by Congress: [ PASSED / FAILED ]

| Joshua Chao, Chair of the UCO Student Congress Date |
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| De Shannon, President of the UCO Student Association Date |

Legislative Override: [ OVERRIDDEN / NOT OVERRIDDEN / POCKET APPROVAL ]