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Spring 2019

### S19RS SGB No. 5 (Graduate School Apportionment)

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**A BILL**

**TO AMEND THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTION REGARDING THE  
APPORTIONMENT OF STUDENT SENATE SEATS TO THE GRADUATE SCHOOL**

**PARAGRAPH 1:** WHEREAS, ARTICLE III, SECTION 5(B) OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTION STATES AS FOLLOWS:

“BY THE TWENTIETH (20TH) CLASS DAY OF EACH FALL SEMESTER, THE NUMBER OF STUDENT SENATORS SHALL BE ADJUSTED SO THAT EACH ACADEMIC AREA RECEIVES AN ADDITIONAL SENATOR FOR EVERY FIVE HUNDRED (500) STUDENTS ENROLLED WITHOUT ROUNDING. THE GRADUATE SCHOOL WILL RECEIVE THREE (3) DEDICATED STUDENT SENATORS. THE SEATS ALLOTTED TO THEM, IF NOT FILLED ON THE DATE APPLICATIONS CLOSE, SHALL BE OPENED TO THE OTHER ACADEMIC AREAS BASED ON THE NUMBER OF GRADUATE STUDENTS STUDYING IN THOSE FIELDS, AND SHALL BE ALLOWED TO BE FILLED BY UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS.”; AND

**PARAGRAPH 2:** WHEREAS, THE PROVISION RELATING TO THE GRADUATE SCHOOL IS UNNECESSARY, AS IT ASSUMES THAT GRADUATE STUDENTS WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN STUDENT GOVERNMENT WHEN PROPERLY INFORMED OF OPPORTUNITIES – AN ASSUMPTION THOROUGHLY DISPROVEN IN RECENT YEARS, BOTH IN ABSOLUTE TERMS AND RELATIVE TO CERTAIN OTHER ACADEMIC AREAS THAT DO NOT HAVE A SIMILAR PROVISION; AND

**PARAGRAPH 3:** WHEREAS, SAID PROVISION SUFFERS FROM VARIOUS TECHNICAL ISSUES, INCLUDING WORDING THAT COULD BE INTERPRETED IN MULTIPLE WAYS ABSENT KNOWLEDGE OF THE ORIGINAL AUTHOR’S INTENT; AND

**PARAGRAPH 4:** WHEREAS, SAID PROVISION VIOLATES ONE OF THE BASIC PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRATIC REPRESENTATION, THAT A REPRESENTATIVE SHOULD BE ONE OF THE REPRESENTED’S OWN AND ABLE TO UNDERSTAND THE CONDITION OF THE REPRESENTED – A PRINCIPLE THAT IS RELEVANT GIVEN THE SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES OF GRADUATE STUDENTS; AND

**PARAGRAPH 5:** WHEREAS, THAT ARTICLE III, SECTION 5(B) OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTION BE AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

“BY THE TWENTIETH (20TH) CLASS DAY OF EACH FALL SEMESTER, THE NUMBER OF STUDENT SENATORS SHALL BE ADJUSTED SO THAT EACH ACADEMIC AREA RECEIVES AN ADDITIONAL SENATOR FOR EVERY FIVE HUNDRED (500) STUDENTS ENROLLED WITHOUT ROUNDING.

**PARAGRAPH 6:** THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT SENATE THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT CONSTITUTION BE AMENDED REGARDING THE APPORTIONMENT OF STUDENT SENATE SEATS TO THE GRADUATE SCHOOL, AND

**PARAGRAPH 7:** BE IT RESOLVED THAT A COPY OF THIS BILL BE TRANSMITTED TO ERICA BORNE, COMMISSIONER OF ELECTIONS; MICHELLE LOWERY, STUDENT GOVERNMENT ADVISOR; ANDREW CHENEVERT, CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE UNIVERSITY COURT; AND STEWART LOCKETT, STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

**PARAGRAPH 8:** THIS BILL SHALL TAKE EFFECT AT THE CALL TO ORDER OF THE SPRING 2019 ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOLLOWING PASSAGE BY A TWO-THIRDS (2/3) VOTE OF THE LSU STUDENT SENATE AND SIGNATURE BY THE PRESIDENT, UPON LAPSE OF TIME FOR PRESIDENTIAL ACTION, OR IF VETOED BY THE PRESIDENT AND SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY THE SENATE, FOLLOWING SUCH APPROVAL; PROVIDED THAT IT IS RATIFIED BY A MAJORITY OF THE STUDENTS VOTING IN A REFERENDUM PURSUANT TO ARTICLE IX, SECTION 1 OF THE STUDENT BODY CONSTITUTION.

**APPROVED:**

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**CHRISTINA M. BLACK**  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
**STEWART LOCKETT**  
STUDENT BODY PRESIDENT

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_