



HB-06.01

Bill to Require Business Dress during House of Representatives Meetings

- WHEREAS** The House of Representatives is a major element of the student government of the Associated Students of Oregon State University, and not only plays a role in representing roughly 28,000 students but also occupies a significant position in the allocation of a budget of approximately \$44 million, composed of student fees.
- WHEREAS** The House of Representatives has a weighty responsibility in competently representing the ASOSU and determining the allocation of its funds, and occupies a central place in the public sphere of Oregon State University.
- WHEREAS** The House of Representatives will be expanding in the coming years to be larger and more representative of students, and will take on more power and influence in these important areas.
- WHEREAS** A body of this nature must have a decorum befitting of its status.
- WHEREAS** Business attire is expected in any professional setting, which the House of Representatives certainly is.
- WHEREAS** Business attire has been shown to increase the competency and attentiveness of deliberative bodies when the relevant members are so attired.*
- WHEREAS** Individuals bringing business, reports, or other matters into House of Representatives meetings may be professionally dressed, and it could be seen as demeaning or inappropriate to present to individuals who are under dressed for a professional meeting.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE 6th ASOSU HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT:

Number 13 be added to Rule VII of the House Standing Rules, which will state:

“ All elected and appointed members of the House of Representatives, including the Speaker of the House and Congressional Clerk, shall be required to wear business attire and appear in a professional manner during the weekly meetings of the House of Representatives as well as the Joint Sessions of the ASOSU congress. Business attire shall be defined at a minimum as skirts, dresses, professional blazers or blouses, slacks and collared, button down shirts and close-toed dress shoes.

Failing to wear business casual attire shall be result in the offending member being removed from the chamber and being assigned an unexcused absence.

In recognition of the increasing diversity of the student government and the diversity of OSU, a Representative may break the aforementioned code should they feel that it does not allow for the professional attire of their own cultural background, provided that they dress in the professional manner prescribed by their cultural background. Considering the potential for financial hardships preventing members of the House of Representatives from adhering to the aforementioned rules, any person finding themselves unable to comply with this legislation is encouraged to speak with the Speaker of the House to find an agreeable alternative to this policy. The Speaker of the House shall have discretion in regards to what is acceptable under the dress code, however that decision may be appealed to the Student Advocate, who shall have final authority. ”

Written By:

Saul Boulanger, Speaker of the House of Representatives
Andrew Futerman, Representative

Sponsored By:

Saul Boulanger, Speaker of the House of Representatives
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Approved by:

Saul Boulanger, Speaker of the House of Representatives

Signature: _____ Date: _____