

Definitions Code

Absence – (senatorial) Missing a meeting for any period of time, excluding tardiness, early departure, and points of personal privilege

Academic Year - A period of time that consists of two semesters, excluding the summer intercession terms.

Act – (legislative) A bill or an appropriation bill which has been enacted by the Senate but which has not yet been signed or otherwise affirmed as law.

Administrative Term – the term beginning upon the administration of the oath of office to the President and ending when that President leaves office, whether by completion of the term, expulsion from the University, or other causes.

Advisory Opinion - An opinion stated by the Attorney General upon the request of the Senate or the Executive Branch. An advisory opinion has no force of law but is given as a matter of courtesy. These opinions are often cited as the probable correct law on the subject but are not binding.

Answer – (judicial) the means by which the defendant states: (a) their defense to the claim stated in the complaint, (b) any counterclaim against the plaintiff.

Appropriation Bill – A proposed piece of legislation which, if enacted, signed, or otherwise confirmed would authorize the expenditure of funds. It is a mechanism to request funding outside of the budget processes.

Bill – A proposed piece of legislation which, if enacted, signed, or otherwise affirmed, would become law.

Campaign Worker – Any person or organization involved in the campaign for the passage/defeat of an issue on the ballot or that aids a candidate or group of candidates in the solicitation of votes for the purpose of obtaining an elected office within ASUNM where the candidate (or any one of a group of candidates running together) consents to the aid or is aware of it and does not attempt to stop the aid. Aiding in a campaign includes but is not limited to creating and/or distributing campaign material, fund-raising, and soliciting votes in any manner.

Campaign – any and all acts and/ or resources that are involved in the solicitation of votes or endorsements for the purpose of obtaining an elected office, or the passage/defeat of any issue appearing on the ballot.

Challenge Ballot – A ballot cast by a challenge voter, and subject to individual verification by the Election Commission.

Challenge Voter – A voter who has their status as a member of ASUNM questioned.

Claim – Any demand for something as one's right or the right to an equitable remedy for a breach of contract or performance.

Complaint – a formal charge.

Constitutional Amendment – a proposed alteration in or addition to the ASUNM Constitution.

Contestant – any student who files a written notice of contest of an election.

Contestee – any official against whom a written notice of contest of election has been filed.

Deficit Spending- Spending of ASUNM money that is not available in an organization's account. This includes the spending of ASUNM money not available in individual line-items within an organization's budget.

Early Departure – Leaving a meeting before it concludes.

Election Official - any member of the Election Commission, Poll workers, or other persons appointed to assist in any ASUNM election.

Emergency (Legislative) – any item of legislation may be designated as an emergency provided that immediate action is necessary to protect the interests of ASUNM either in whole or in part.

Enactment – an affirmative vote of the Senate to establish a law, internal business, resolution, or provide for an appropriation.

Ex-Officio- A non-voting member with speaking privileges by virtue of, or because of, an office/position held, unless specified in the Lawbook or Constitution otherwise.

Financial Enjoinment – a legislative remedy issued in order to prohibit a group from engaging in any financial transactions.

Fiscal Quarter – The divisions of the fiscal year, with the first quarter ending September 30, the second December 31, the third March 31, and the fourth June 30.

Fiscal Year – The period of time beginning July 1st and ending June 30th.

Floor – 1. The right to address an assembly. 2. A member who has been recognized by the chair and who is in order is said to "have the floor" until remarks are concluded. 3. The body of assembly members.

Gallery – the designated area in the government chambers where members of the community may sit while business is conducted.

General Election – A regularly scheduled election held during either the Fall or Spring Semester each year for the purpose of electing Senators and/or the President and Vice President or any referendum or constitutional amendment.

Gross Misconduct – An intentional act which is forbidden or unlawful and is performed with indifference to known or obviously harmful consequences.

Group – any chartered organization, Student Service Agency or committee, or General Government.

Impeach – to accuse a public official, elected or appointed, of a crime or malfeasance, before the Senate, by the presentation of a written accusation.

Interim – A temporary presidential appointee position pending approval from the Outreach and Appointments Committee (O&A).

Interlineation – 1. the act of writing between the lines of a document. 2. what is written between the lines, interpolation.

Internal Business – an item of legislation which only affects the activities of the legislative branch of the Government.

Joint Resolution – A Senate Resolution may become a Joint Resolution if it is signed by the President, at which time it will become an expression of intention or sentiment of the Government. A Joint Resolution is limited to the term of the President who signed it.

Jurisdiction – 1. the authority to interpret and apply the law. 2. the territory under a given authority or control.

Legislator – a member of the Senate or the Vice President.

Motion – 1. the formal mode in which a member submits a proposed measure for the consideration and action of the meeting. 2. An application made to a court or justice for the purpose of obtaining a rule or order directing some act to be done in favor of the applicant.

Official Candidate – a student who has filed with the Election Commission an affidavit for candidacy and who has been validated by the Election Commission, and who has also attended the mandatory candidate meeting.

One-Time Capital Outlay – A purchase that is made on an infrequent basis, usually equipment. Generally a purchase is considered a one-time capital outlay only if time between purchases is 3-5 years or longer.

Opening Statement – an outline of anticipated proof in a case. Its purpose is to give the court introductory information about facts and issues so that the court will be able to understand the evidence. Such does not constitute evidence and may be limited in time by a rule of the court.

Perjury – testifying falsely under oath.

Plaintiff – the party that institutes a suit in court.

Point of Personal Privilege: -A request to temporarily leave a meeting, as granted by the presiding officer and noted in the meeting's minutes.

Polling District – the area within twenty-five (25) feet of a polling place.

President Elect - The candidate elected during the spring ASUNM general election to the position of ASUNM President. This position will exist for the duration of time between the election results being certified and deemed official and the time the Presidential Oath of Office is administered. The President Elect is not formally powered to carry out actions on behalf of the Executive Branch and is therefore not considered a member of the Executive Branch.

Principal Sponsor – the Senator whose name appears first among the sponsors on a piece of legislation or the chair of the Senate Standing Committee sponsoring a piece of legislation.

Quash – to set aside or annul.

Recuse – to disqualify or seek to disqualify from participation in a decision on grounds such as prejudice or personal involvement.

Referendum – an item of legislation which will be placed on the ballot of the next general election for a vote of the membership of ASUNM, but does not provide for an amendment to the Constitution.

Rest – (judicial) to indicate that all evidence has been presented by a particular party in a proceeding.

Reversion of Funds – a process facilitates through the Finance Committee that reverts some or all of a student group's ASUNM-appropriated funding back into the ASUNM General Fund.

Seated Senate – all current members of the Senate session who have taken the oath of office.

Semester – the first day of classes until the Friday of Finals week.

Senate Aide – a person designated as an assistant to a Senator, appointed by the Senator.

Senate Resolution – An expression of intent or sentiment of the Senate. A Senate Resolution does not have the effect of law and may not be used to provide for the establishment of any rule or regulation; nor may it provide for an appropriation; nor may it provide for the establishment of any committees. A Senate Resolution is limited to the life of the session of the Senate in which it was passed.

Senator – an elected or presidential appointed member of the Senate.

Senatorial Office Hours – period of time a senator commits to being physically present in the ASUNM office to conduct senate business.

Senatorial Outreach Hours – period of time a Senator commits to being physically present at: (A) a student organization meeting or event in which the Senator is not a member of the organization but may represent through ASUNM, (B) a meeting or event sponsored or co-sponsored by a campus group of which the Senator does not regularly attend, or (C) tabling. In the case of tabling, the Senator must be clearly identified by a sign or ASUNM apparel. This does not include office hours, committee meetings, student service meetings, or joint committee meetings. These are to be done outside of the ASUNM office. There is to be no more than two (2) Senators present at a location fulfilling their outreach hours.

Seniority – Determined by (1) the greatest amount of time in office, or (2) in the event of a tie, selection will be determined by the greatest number of votes received by the eligible Senators in

their most recent election.

Service Entity – A program whose primary purpose is to provide service to the students of UNM.

Session – the sitting of the legislature, court, etc., for the transaction of its business.

Special Election – an election mandated by the Constitution.

Standing Resolution- a resolution passed by the senate that provides for a directive or rule within the senate. A standing resolution shall stand as law within the senate and its life is limited to the session in which it was passed. A standing resolution does not need to originate in a committee, is passed by a majority vote, and does not need to be signed by the President of ASUNM.

Standing Rules – the rules guiding a government body on matters including but not limited to, speaking time, rules of debate, limits of debate, etc. A Government body will include but not be limited to, the Senate, its Committees, and Student Service Agencies.

Statute of Limitations – the time limit for bringing an action to the attention of the court.

Subpoena – a command to appear at a certain time and place to give testimony upon a certain matter.

Suspension – to bar for a period from a privilege, office, or position.

Tardy –When a senator is not seated during roll call.

Town Hall Meeting – An open forum, coordinated by the Outreach and Appointments committee and the Vice President, which allows the University of New Mexico community to voice their concerns and questions regarding the University of New Mexico as a whole to ASUNM.

Voter – any ASUNM member who presents themselves at a poll to vote.

Willful Neglect of Office – Knowing and intentional failure to attend to one's official duties.