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**NEWS RELEASE**

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For Immediate Release

## **House passes Guillemard's bill bringing changes to UMSU legislation**

*New law to provide more autonomy for students' union and a stronger say in decisions for members*

Sarah Guillemard, MLA for Fort Richmond, is pleased that her private member's bill, the University of Manitoba Students' Union (UMSU) Amendment Act, was passed by the Legislative Assembly on third reading today and will become law this year.

"This bill includes amendments to bring greater transparency and autonomy to the University of Manitoba Students' Union, and gives its members a stronger voice in union decisions on matters such as UMSU fee increases," said Guillemard, whose constituency is home to the U of M's Fort Garry Campus. "The legislative changes also increase accountability in not only the students' membership fees, but in UMSU's services."

Bill 300, the UMSU Amendment Act, is poised to receive Royal Assent before the legislative session ends this fall.

UMSU's leadership asked our Progressive Conservative government to make these changes to the private legislation, in order to also make the act's language more inclusive of all student members. The bill's passage has come despite the opposition NDP's initial efforts to stall the petitioned legislation against UMSU's wishes.

Our government is following our mandate to bring increased accountability and democracy to unions, and is listening to the concerns of post-secondary students.

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**For more information, please contact:**

Ross Romaniuk, Communications Officer  
Manitoba Progressive Conservative Caucus  
Tel: (204) 945-4689 Cell: (204) 291-7702  
Email: [ross.romaniuk@leg.gov.mb.ca](mailto:ross.romaniuk@leg.gov.mb.ca)