RESOLUTION #4415

Support for a Colorado State University Citizen Review Board

SPONSORED BY: Michelle Sogge, Senator, College of Health and Human Sciences; Peter Seel, Senator, College of Engineering; Phoenix Dugger, Senator, Intra-University; Kelsey Bigham, Parliamentarian; Rioux Jordan, Deputy Chief Justice; Jessica Teal, Senator, College of Health and Human Sciences; Autumn Lee, Senator, College of Liberal Arts; Samuel Laffey, Senator, College of Liberal Arts

WRITTEN BY: Jason Sydoriak, Senator, College of Liberal Arts

ENDORSED BY: Andrew Bondi, Senate Recruitment & Retention Officer; Duane Hansen, Representative, Adult Learner and Veteran Services;

WHEREAS
The Colorado State University Police Department ensures the health and safety of campus and its surrounding area through law enforcement services; and,

WHEREAS
Despite numerous hours of training and careful execution of said services with the utmost concern for integrity, by the Colorado State University Police Department, all people are fallible and capable of making mistakes; and,

WHEREAS
Recent events within the campus community involving the constitutional questioning of the CSU Bicycle Education and Enforcement Program and the national focus on the excessive use of police force have called for assurances of local law enforcement competency.

WHEREAS
Regardless of the reason why Colorado State University law enforcement officers need to interact with the public, people have the right to have their dignity and rights preserved. If the conduct of a Colorado State University law enforcement officer fails to preserve the rights and dignity of an individual then they have the right to express those concerns and grievances to the department through a procedural process of submitting complaints; and,
WHEREAS
The current method of reviewing complaints that warrant an internal investigation by the administration is absent of student body representation and is only temporary implemented; so,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED
That the 44th Senate of the Associated Students of Colorado State University recommends that an autonomous civilian oversight board be established under the title of the “Citizen Review Board” which will install confidence in the campus body that the police services of the campus are being conducted effectively, professionally, and in the best interests of all those who interact with the Colorado State University Police Department; and,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED
That the 44th Senate of the Associated Students of Colorado State University recommends that such a board be established with the responsibility and duty of reviewing Colorado State University Police Department internal investigations in those circumstances where law enforcement officers have used deadly force, excessive force leading to serious bodily harm, and in those circumstances where a person has complained about the conduct of such officers; and,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED
That the 44th Senate of the Associated Students of Colorado State University recommends that if such a board is to be created, that the advice and insight of the Colorado State University Police Department be considered and that members are trained on police tactics and standard operating procedures to ensure their decisions are informed; and,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED
That the 44th Senate of the Associated Students of Colorado State University recommends that if such a board is to be created, that it reflects the demographics of campus to include, but not limited to, students, faculty, and staff. And that those members carefully consider the City of Fort Collins Citizen Review Board bylaws as a template for its own bylaws; and,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED
That a copy of this legislation be forwarded to Dr. Anthony Frank, Colorado State University President; Dr. Blanche Hughes, Vice President for Student Affairs; Amy Parsons, Vice President for University Operations; and Chief Scott Harris, Chief of Police Colorado State University.

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