

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY  
FORTY-SEVENTH SENATE  
SESSION 12  
NOVEMBER 29, 2017**

**BILL #4715  
FORMATION OF THE LEGISLATIVE STRATEGY ADVISORY BOARD (LSAB)**

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SPONSORED BY: Cole Wise, Chief of Staff

WRITTEN BY: Isabel Brown, Speaker of the Senate; Anthony Taylor, Director of Governmental Affairs; Hanna Johnson, Director of Community Affairs

COLLABORATED WITH: Josh Williams, Director of Governmental Affairs Emeritus, Senator, MultiFaith, Belief, and Spirituality Council, Budgetary Affairs Committee Chair;

ENDORSED BY: Connor Cheadle, Senator, College of Liberal Arts, Internal Affairs Committee Chair; Josh Williams, Director of Governmental Affairs Emeritus, Senator, MultiFaith, Belief, and Spirituality Council, Budgetary Affairs Committee Chair; Liam Aubrey, Senator, College of Business; Bayler Shubert, Director of Academics; Kyrie Merline, Director of Marketing Strategy

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ABSTRACT: This bill seeks to create the Legislative Strategy Advisory Board (LSAB), an intra-branch board that seeks to create a cohesive governmental policy agenda and stance(s) on behalf of the Associated Students of Colorado State University, opening up the dialogue for agenda and policy-setting to the organization as a whole.

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WHEREAS

ASCSU employs a lobbyist on an annual basis to advance the interests of the Associated Students of Colorado State University at the Colorado State Legislature; and,

WHEREAS

Historically, agenda and policy-setting have been actions undertaken solely by the Office of the President and members of the Department of State and Local Policy; and,

WHEREAS

Access to the ASCSU lobbyist regarding student opinions related to policy affecting Colorado State University has not historically been accessible to the Officials of the Associated Students of Colorado State University in other departments or branches; and,

WHEREAS

The student body of Colorado State University is comprised of more than 33,000 students with diverse opinions and viewpoints related to legislative policy affecting students. They should have

a diverse group of representatives fighting for their interests when it comes to agenda and policy-setting from their student government, rather than three Officials of ASCSU; so,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY ENACTED

That ASCSU formally create the ASCSU Legislative Strategy Advisory Board as an interbranch Board in order gain a wider student voice within ASCSU regarding local, state, and federal policies, programs, and legislation, to eliminate political-ideological bias that does not directly benefit the wider community of Colorado State University students when taking a stance on local, state, and federal governmental affairs, to connect and open up dialogue between the executive, legislative, and judicial branches within ASCSU and the CSU student body, and to create reliable and fair rules and guidelines by which ASCSU will decide how the organization will stand on local, state, and federal policies, programs, and legislation; And,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

That the ASCSU Legislative Strategy Advisory Board operate under the attached bylaws, with voting membership of the committee consisting of ASCSU President or Vice President, the ASCSU Speaker of the Senate or another member of Senate leadership, three ASCSU Executive Branch appointments, and three ASCSU Legislative Branch appointments (information about appointment to the committee can be found in the attached bylaws); and,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

That Section 302 of the ASCSU Constitution, which currently reads:

“Section 302: The President of ASCSU shall be the Chief Executive of the Associated Students and shall be responsible for carrying out the duties and responsibilities of that office as determined by this Constitution. The President shall sign all bills enacted by the Senate or shall return them to the Senate with the President’s veto within two regularly scheduled sessions of Senate of the passage of the bill. If the President does not sign or veto a bill enacted by the Senate within the previously stated time period, then the bill shall be considered vetoed. The President shall act as the official ASCSU representative to the Board of Governors of the Colorado State University System. The President shall act as liaison to the Colorado State faculty and administration, the state legislature, the governor's office, and the Congress of the United States. The President shall prepare an executive budget, which shall be submitted to the Senate for deliberation and apportionment, with no more than 22% of the total budgeted expenditures allocated for salaries, excluding the ASCSU Administrative Assistant and any nonratified positions, as defined by Article 1, Section 109. During the course of the fiscal year the President may reallocate budgeted and unbudgeted funds, as s/he deems necessary. If the President decides to move funds between the departments that exist within ASCSU accounts, the change must be submitted to the Senate in the form of a Supplemental Funding Bill. The bill shall be written and presented by the ASCSU President and/or his/her designee. The Senate may vote to approve the reallocation of funds with a simple majority vote. The President shall negotiate and act as signatory for all contractual agreements relating to

ASCSU. Throughout negotiations, the President will keep the Senate updated on progress and will receive input from the Senate. The President will present to the Senate, for the purpose of discussion, any contract that they sign. The President shall coordinate and supervise the work of the Executive.”

Be updated to read as follows:

“Section 302: The President of ASCSU shall be the Chief Executive of the Associated Students and shall be responsible for carrying out the duties and responsibilities of that office as determined by this Constitution. The President shall sign all bills enacted by the Senate or shall return them to the Senate with the President’s veto within two regularly scheduled sessions of Senate of the passage of the bill. If the President does not sign or veto a bill enacted by the Senate within the previously stated time period, then the bill shall be considered vetoed. **The President shall act as the official ASCSU representative to the Board of Governors of the Colorado State University System. The President shall act as liaison to the Colorado State faculty and administration. The President, alongside the other board members of the Legislative Strategy Advisory Board, shall act as a liaison to the state legislature, the governor's office, and the Congress of the United States.** The President shall prepare an executive budget, which shall be submitted to the Senate for deliberation and apportionment, with no more than 22% of the total budgeted expenditures allocated for salaries, excluding the ASCSU Administrative Assistant and any nonratified positions, as defined by Article 1, Section 109. During the course of the fiscal year the President may reallocate budgeted and unbudgeted funds, as s/he deems necessary. If the President decides to move funds between the departments that exist within ASCSU accounts, the change must be submitted to the Senate in the form of a Supplemental Funding Bill. The bill shall be written and presented by the ASCSU President and/or his/her designee. The Senate may vote to approve the reallocation of funds with a simple majority vote. The President shall negotiate and act as signatory for all contractual agreements relating to ASCSU. Throughout negotiations, the President will keep the Senate updated on progress and will receive input from the Senate. The President will present to the Senate, for the purpose of discussion, any contract that they sign. The President shall coordinate and supervise the work of the Executive.”

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

That the job descriptions of the ASCSU Speaker of the Senate, ASCSU Director of Governmental Affairs, and the ASCSU Director of Community Affairs be updated to account for their position on the Legislative Strategy Advisory Board; And,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

That the ASCSU Senate approve the attached ASCSU Legislative Strategy Advisory Board bylaws; And,

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED

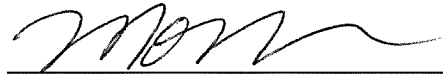
That a copy of this Legislation be forwarded to: Jen (LAST NAME), ASCSU Lobbyist; Mark Gill, Chief of Staff (SPECIFIC JOB TITLE); Tony Frank, Colorado State University Chancellor and President;

25-0-0

PASSAGE

12/06/2017

DATE



PRESIDENT MICHAEL WELLS

12-7-17

DATE

Tags:

## **ASCSU Legislative Strategy Advisory Board Bylaws**

### **Article I: Name and Affiliation**

The name of this organization shall be the Legislative Strategy Advisory Board (LSAB). LSAB is an intra-branch board under the Associated Students of Colorado State University and shall hereby follow the ASCSU Constitution and Code of Ethics.

### **Article II: Mission**

The mission of the Legislative Strategy Advisory Board shall be to create a cohesive governmental policy stance and agenda on behalf of the Associated Students of Colorado State University. The legislative stances and agendas this board decides upon will be used to guide the executive members who work to lobby at the local, state, and federal level on behalf of the Associated Students of Colorado State University. The goals of this board are as follows:

- 1) To gain a wider student voice within ASCSU regarding local, state, and federal policies, programs, and legislation,
- 2) To eliminate political-ideological bias that does not directly benefit the wider community of Colorado State University students when taking a stance on local, state, and federal governmental affairs,
- 3) To connect and open up dialogue between the executive, legislative, and judicial branches within ASCSU,
- 4) And to create reliable and fair rules and guidelines by which ASCSU will decide how the organization will stand on local, state, and federal policies, programs, and legislation.

### **Article III: Membership**

#### **Section 1: Voting Members**

Voting members shall consist of the ASCSU President or Vice President, the ASCSU Speaker of the Senate or another member of Senate leadership, three ASCSU Executive Branch appointments, and three ASCSU Legislative Branch appointments. Executive Branch appointments shall be made by the ASCSU President and shall be ratified by the ASCSU Senate. Senate Branch appointments shall be made and voted upon by the ASCSU Senate. Both branches must have their representatives nominated and ratified by the third week of the fall semester. If a member has missed more than 2 unexcused meetings in an academic year, then the board has the power to remove them by a 2/3rds vote, and it is the responsibility of the respective branch to appoint and for Senate to ratify a new member as soon as possible- preferably not missing more than one meeting of the board.

#### **Section 2: Judicial Branch Input**

The Judicial Branch shall appoint a representative who monitors the board's outcomes and decisions to ensure that the board follows the rules and guidelines specified in Article VII. This representative will not have a standing vote regarding this board's agenda items, but rather will step in when the board is not following the procedure outlined in these bylaws. Anyone may ask the Judicial Branch representative to evaluate if a decision by this board was correctly following the procedure specified in these bylaws. It is the responsibility of the Judicial Branch representative to investigate such concerns, report their findings, and step in if necessary. In the case that the board had repeated or extreme rule breaking of the guidelines specified in Article VII, then it shall be referred to the Judicial Branch for Judicial Review.

### **Article IV: Officers and Representatives**

#### Section 1: Chairperson/ Chairpeople

The chair(s) of the Legislative Strategy Advisory Board shall be the executive director(s) and/or officer(s) of the department within ASCSU that directly works with the local, state, and federal governments- i.e. the "State and Local Policy Department." In the case that there are more than one director or officer in said department, the directors and officers shall co-chair this board; there should only be up to two chairpeople. The Chairperson(people) shall act as an unbiased source of information to the Board, advise the Board about feasibility of an agenda or stance, execute the decisions of the Board to the best of their ability, schedule and preside over all meetings of the Board, prepare agenda, maintain correspondence of the Board, and appoint a designee to maintain documentation and minutes of the activities of the Board. The Chairperson(people) shall not have a vote but do have the power of refusal specified in Article IX.

#### Article V: Meetings

Section 1. The Board shall meet once per month during the academic semester or at the discretion of the Chairperson(people). All voting members shall be notified of meeting time, date and location at least one week prior to each meeting.

Section 2. All LSAB meetings shall be open to the public. Interested parties are welcome to attend. The Board may, by a two-thirds majority vote, elect to go into executive session where non-board members shall excuse themselves from attendance.

Section 3. All official actions of the Board shall be open for public inspection. The Chairperson (people) shall be responsible for assuring that copies of the minutes and other material presented to the members at the meetings are available to members and other parties requesting these materials.

Section 4. Ex-officio members shall be non-voting members, and serve in a support capacity, including advising, administrative support and other activities as directed by the Chairperson(people). Ex-officio members may be asked to remove themselves from portions of meetings, at the discretion of the Chairperson(people).

Section 5. Quorum shall consist of six (6) voting members.

Section 6. Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised 10th Edition shall govern the Board in all cases where they are applicable and obtainable.

Section 7. The Board shall be responsible for creating and publishing a report of all actions taken by the committee each semester. This report shall be presented to in front of the ASCSU Senate and will be sent out through the weekly report.

#### Article VI: Responsibilities

Section 1. The Board shall be responsible for creating a cohesive policy agenda on behalf of the Associated Students of Colorado State University in which the organization would lobby at the state, local, or federal level.

Section 2: The Board shall review local, state, and federal policies or programs which relate to the cohesive agenda set by the Board.

Section 3: Board members shall be responsible for reading in completion all materials sent out by the Chairperson(people) regarding the next meeting before the next meeting occurs.

Section 4: The Chairperson(people) shall be responsible for addressing all official motions of the board regarding formal legislative stances.

#### Article VII: Agenda-Setting and Legislative Stance Rules and Guidelines

Section 1. The following criteria shall be evaluated by LSAB in consideration of the legitimacy of taking a political stance on behalf of the Associated Students of Colorado State University; the default stance of ASCSU is neutral unless the board- through these guidelines- produces a legislative stance on behalf of the student body.

1. The stance or agenda must directly affect and benefit the wider Colorado State University student population and/ or CSU campus at large;
2. The stance or agenda must be politically feasible by the ASCSU Executive Branch considering the current factors at play;
3. The degree to which the stance or agenda aligns with the stance or agenda of Colorado State University administration- this board may choose to not align with CSU administration about a stance on a piece of legislation but for justifiable reasons that link to the other rules and guidelines specified in Article VII Section 1.'
4. The justification and clarity of the stance or agenda plan and presentation.
5. The Board shall not move to a vote that merely advocates or raises awareness around a specific issue. The Legislative Branch and the Executive Branch both possess mechanisms in the form of a resolutions and executive declarations respectively for expressly that purpose.
6. The existence of this body shall not be construed to preclude either Legislative or the Executive branch from having legislative priorities outside of the priorities set by the Student Legislative Policy Stance Board.
7. All formal ASCSU federal, state, and local policy stances must be voted on and approved by the board.

#### Article VIII: Voting

Section 1. All voting members- specified in Article III- shall have one vote. Quorum must be present before a vote can be taken. Votes should be based on the rules articulated in Article VII. A two-thirds ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) vote of the quorum must vote in the affirmative for an item to pass, else it fails. Votes are specified to be within a 2/3rds majority due to the possibility of polarizing motions, and how the goal of this board is to represent a clear majority on behalf of the student body.

#### Article IX: Power of Refusal by Chairperson(people)

Section 1. The Executive's Chief Legislative Liaisons for local and state issues respectively shall have the power to refuse to lobby in a manner consistent with the Board's priorities for any of the following reasons:

- A.) Doing so would conflict with ASCSU's strategic legislative agenda.
- B.) Doing so would be harm ASCSU's relationship or reputation with governmental agencies, at any level of government, or the Administration of Colorado State University.
- C.) What is asked of them is politically unfeasible or impossible.
- D.) Any other reason that hampers their ability to carry out their duty to represent the students of Colorado State University in a fair and consistent manner.
- E.) These officials may not refuse to carry out legislative priorities because they personally disagree with the stance of the board. The refusal must be grounded in the fact that lobbying in the manner requested would hamper the chairperson(people)'s ability to do their job.
- F.) Upon request, Chief Legislative Liaisons must articulate their reasons for refusal formally in writing.
- G.) No disciplinary action may be taken against an individual merely because he/she exercises this power.

I.) In the event that the power of refusal is exercised, the official stance of ASCSU shall revert to and remain neutral (on the issue in question) for the duration of the academic year.

Article X: Amendment

Section 1. All amendments of these bylaws must be recommended by a 2/3rds vote of this board and must be approved by a majority-vote of the ASCSU Senate. All amendments must follow the ASCSU Constitution.