



**THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF COLORADO STATE  
UNIVERSITY**

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**14<sup>th</sup> SESSION OF THE FIFTY-THIRD SENATE  
29 November 2023**

**BILL #5314  
Reestablishment of the Accessibility Caucus as a Standing Caucus**

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**NOTICE:** *A signature to sponsor means that you only wish for the legislation to be heard, a signature to endorse means that you support the contents and/or actions of this legislation.*

**WRITTEN BY:** Alexander Wilson, Vice Chair, Accessibility Caucus, Senator, Student Disability Center; Gavin LeCerf, Senator, College of Liberal Arts;

**COLLABORATED WITH:** Sammy Trout, Chair, Accessibility Caucus, Associate Senator, Student Disability Center; Enock Monanti, Chair, Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee, Senator, Black African American Cultural Center;

**SPONSORED BY:** Lauren Davis, Senator, Women Gender Advocacy Center;

**ENDORSED BY:** Ariadne Athey, Senator, Student Disability Center; Madeleine Kamberg, Associate Senator, Adult Learner Veteran Services; Claire Pickerel, Senator, Warner College of Natural Resources; Olivia Friske, Senator, Women Gender Advocacy Center and Chair of Women's Caucus; Adalyn Schumer, Senator, Adult Learner and Veterans Services

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*ABSTRACT: This bill seeks to reestablish the ASCSU Accessibility Caucus as a standing caucus of ASCSU, with membership offered to all students involved in all three branches of ASCSU as well as students not a part of ASCSU, with the particular intent of advocating for disabled students to promote accessibility for all disabled students at Colorado State University.*

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**WHEREAS**

According to the CSU Principles of Community for Inclusion, "We create and nurture inclusive environments and welcome, value and affirm all members of our community, including their various identities, skills, ideas, talents, and contributions"; and,

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WHEREAS

Former Senator for the Student Disability Center and Accessibility Caucus Chair-Emerit Ruairi Low, co-founded the ASCSU Accessibility Caucus to operate in the "Nothing about us without us" doctrine, which is an idea that no policy should be decided by any representative without the full and direct participation of members of the group(s) affected by that policy," and,

WHEREAS

A quarter of the current membership of the Accessibility Caucus are non-ASCSU members, and ensuring their voices are heard is a prevalent matter within the Accessibility Caucus; and,

WHEREAS

ASCSU is a body that seeks to "establish a government by the students for the students, based upon the principles of equality and inclusivity for all," according to the Preamble of the ASCSU Constitution; and,

WHEREAS

According to Title III of the ADA, which covers schools, all public or private schools that receive federal funding are required under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act to make their programs accessible to students with disabilities; and,

WHEREAS

Colorado State University is a recipient of federal and state funding, which means they must comply with all relevant civil rights legislation that protects people with disabilities from discrimination, including, not limited to the Americans with Disabilities Act, Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act, and The Rehabilitation Act, to name a few examples; and,

WHEREAS

Outside of representatives from the Student Disability Center and the Director of Diversity and Inclusion, there is no dedicated body in ASCSU tasked with ensuring accessibility on campus, let alone one that is specifically tasked with investigating and responding to accessibility faults on campus; and

WHEREAS

ASCSU has pledged to "work to create a diverse reflection of the Colorado State student body in Senate and Cabinet positions, in appointments to committees, and in who is sought for direction on important issues," according to the Preamble of the ASCSU Constitution; and,

WHEREAS

Members of ASCSU have previously met to discuss existing cultural strain in the organization related to accessibility needs; and,

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WHEREAS

The Accessibility Caucus report is a key aspect of the Caucus's investigative nature. Not only does it allow for accountability and transparency on the University, it also ensures accountability and transparency on behalf of the Caucus to show its work to ASCSU as well as the students; and,

WHEREAS

The Accessibility Officer in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Affairs Committee has a much narrower scope of responsibilities, such as making sure that all legislation is accessible and ensuring Senate and Senate Leadership as a whole are held accountable to the accessibility clause of the ASCSU Constitution, that do not encompass campus-wide audits; and,

WHEREAS

Enshrining the Accessibility Caucus as a standing entity in ASCSU would not only enable it to investigate and respond to accessibility faults on campus, it would also solidify a collaborative accessibility partnership between the Executive Branch, Legislative Branch, Judicial Branch, and CSU students who are dedicated to ensuring efficient accessibility and accommodations on campus; so,

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED/ENACTED**

That ASCSU formally establish the ASCSU Accessibility Caucus as an interbranch standing caucus in order to gain a wider disabled diverse voice within ASCSU regarding works by all branches, to ensure accessibility in the organization from all parts of campus; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED/ENACTED**

That the ASCSU Accessibility Caucus be formed by all disabled and non-disabled students in ASCSU from the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, as well as all students on campus, with membership offered voluntarily; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED/ENACTED**

That the ASCSU Accessibility Caucus work to promote legislation, programming, and a sense of community to empower disabled students in the organization and student body; and,

**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED/ENACTED**

That the ASCSU Accessibility Caucus shall continue drafting and publishing reports at the frequency the Caucus deems fit. These could be semesterly or yearly; and,

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**THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED/ENACTED**

That a copy of this legislation be forwarded to Tony Frank, Chancellor, CSU System; Amy Parsons, Colorado State University President; Rick Miranda, Colorado State University Executive Vice President; Dr. Blanche Hughes, Vice President for Student Affairs; Dr. Kauline Cipriani, Vice President for Inclusive Excellence; Dr. Shannon Archibeque-Engle, Associate Vice President for Inclusive Excellence; Ria Vigil, Assistant Vice President for Inclusive Excellence; Justin Dove, Director, Student Disability Center; Joe Tiner, Assistant Director for Access and Accommodations, Student Disability Center; JoAnn Cornell, Director, Asian Pacific American Cultural Center; Duan Ruff, Director, Black/African American Cultural Center; Ty. A Smith, Director, Native American Cultural Center; Maggie Hendrickson, Director, Pride Resource Center; Shannon Archibeque-Engle, Interim Director, Women & Gender Advocacy Center; Aaron Escobedo Garmon, Interim Director of El Centro; Ben Schrader, Director, Adult Learner and Veteran Services; Ben Withers, Dean, College of Liberal Arts; Alonso Aguirre, Dean, Warner College of Natural Resources; Karen Estlund, Dean, Libraries; David McLean, Dean, Walter Scott Jr. College of Engineering; James Pritchett, Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences; Simon Tavener, Dean, College of Natural Sciences; Sue VandeWoude, Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences; Beth Walker, Dean, College of Business; Lisa Youngblade, Dean, College of Health and Human Sciences; Nick DeSalvo, ASCSU President; Alex Silverhart, ASCSU Vice President; Leticia Madrigal, ASCSU Director of Diversity and Inclusion; Alayna Truxal, Chief Justice, ASCSU Supreme Court; , Speaker, ASCSU Senate; Claudia Paraiso, Speaker Pro-Tempore, ASCSU Senate; Enock Monanti, Chair, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Affairs Committee, Associate Senator, Pride Resource Center; Appointees of the Colorado Disability Services in Higher Education Advisory Committee

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**PASSAGE AND ENACTMENT OF BILL 5314  
SESSION OF PASSAGE: 14th**

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**Yays-Nays-Abstentions  
Unanimous**

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**SENATE PASSAGE: 14th  
DATE: 11/29/2023**

*Nicholas DeSalvo*

*12-5-23*

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**ASCSU PRESIDENT NICHOLAS DESALVO**

**DATE**

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**RESOURCES**

Use this section to place any relevant citations and/or resources used in the producing of this legislation.

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**THAT THIS LEGISLATION SHALL BE FORWARDED TO**

**Tony Frank**, Chancellor, CSU System  
**Amy Parsons**, Colorado State University President  
**Rick Miranda**, Colorado State University Executive Vice President  
**Dr. Blanche Hughes**, Vice President for Student Affairs  
**Dr. Kauline Cipriani**, Vice President for Inclusive Excellence  
**Dr. Shannon Archibeque-Engle**, Associate Vice President for Inclusive Excellence, Interim Director, Women & Gender Advocacy Center  
**Ria Vigil**, Assistant Vice President for Inclusive Excellence  
**Justin Dove**, Director of Student Disability Center  
**Joe Tiner**, Assistant Director for Access and Accommodations of Student Disability Center  
**JoAnn Cornell**, Director of the Asian Pacific American Cultural Center  
**Duan Ruff**, Director of the Black/African American Cultural Center  
**Ty. A Smith**, Director of the Native American Cultural Center  
**Maggie Hendrickson**, Director of the Pride Resource Center  
**Aaron Escobedo Garmon**, Interim Director of El Centro  
**Ben Schrader**, Director of the Adult Learner and Veteran Services  
**Ben Withers**, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts  
**Alonso Aguirre**, Dean of the Warner College of Natural Resources  
**Karen Estlund**, Dean of Libraries  
**David McLean**, Dean of the Walter Scott Jr. College of Engineering  
**James Pritchett**, Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences  
**Simon Tavener**, Dean of the College of Natural Sciences  
**Sue VandeWoude**, Dean of the College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences  
**Beth Walker**, Dean of the College of Business  
**Lisa Youngblade**, Dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences  
**Nick DeSalvo**, President of the Associated Students of Colorado State University  
**Alex Silverhart**, Vice-President of the Associated Students of Colorado State University  
**Leticia Madrigal**, Director of Diversity & Inclusion for the Associated Students of Colorado State University  
**Alayna Truxal**, Chief Justice for the Supreme Court of the Associated Students of Colorado State University  
**Ava Ayala**, Speaker for the Senate of the Associated Students of Colorado State University

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**Claudia Paraiso**, Speaker Pro-Tempore for the Senate of the Associated Students of Colorado State University

**Enock Monanti**, Chair of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Affairs Committee and Associate Senator for the Black/African American Cultural Center

**Appointees of the Colorado Disability Services in Higher Education Advisory Committee**

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**ARCHIVE INFO [Parliamentarian Use Only]**

**INTRODUCTION DATE/SESSION: 11/29/2023**

**ARCHIVE DATE:**

**COMMITTEE'S REVIEWED: N/A, Expedited**

**MONETARY? N**