



THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF COLORADO  
STATE UNIVERSITY

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53<sup>rd</sup> SESSION OF THE FIFTY-THIRD SENATE

18 March 2024

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**BILL #5318 Establishment of The Students of the Oval Caucus**

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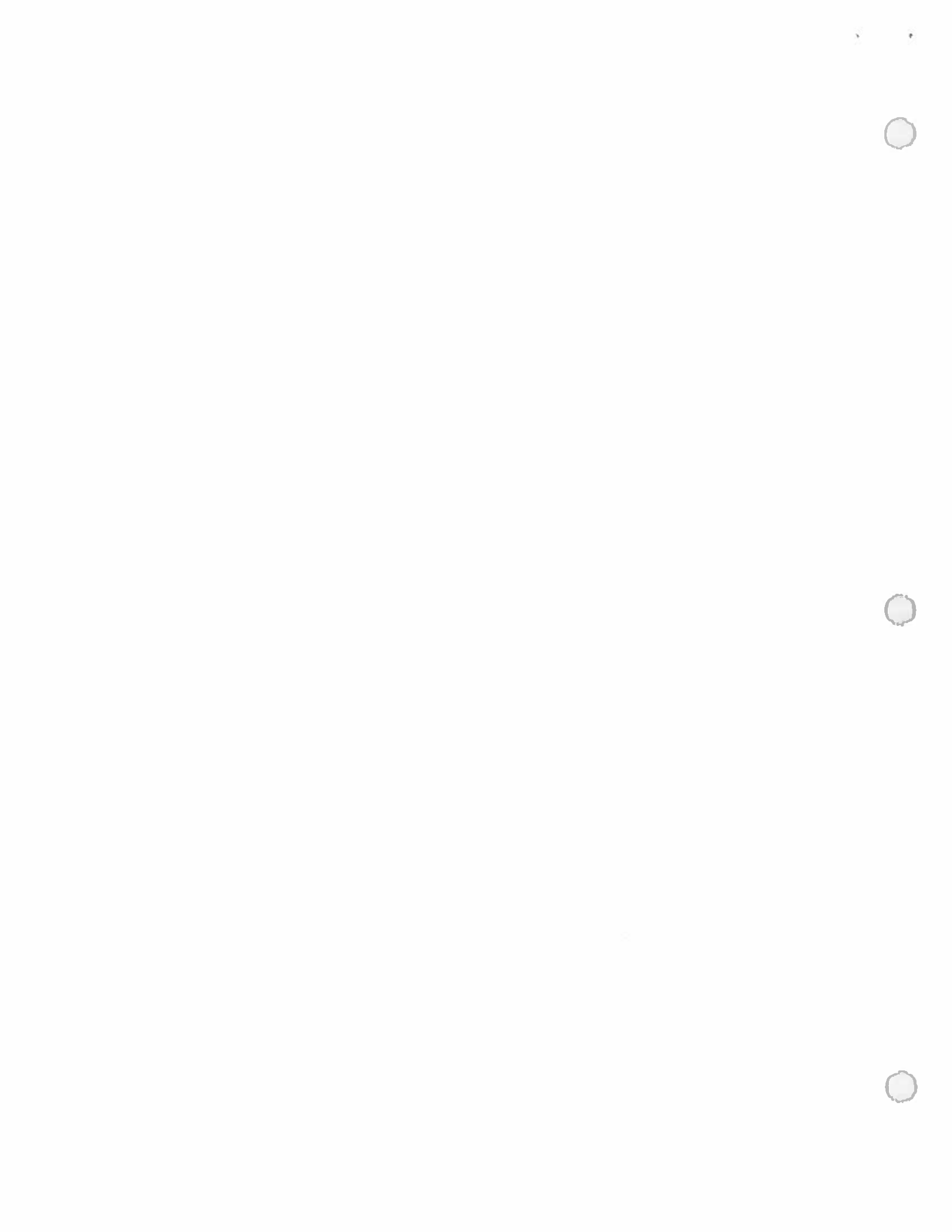
**NOTICE:** *A signature to sponsor means that you only wish for the legislation to be heard, a signature to endorse means that you support the contents and/or actions of this legislation.*

**WRITTEN BY:** Jakye Nunley, Deputy Director of Health, and Wellness.

**COLLABORATED WITH:** Seanna Bucknor, Senator of the Black/African American Culture Center; Enock Monanti, Senator for the Black/African American culture center, chair of diversity equity and inclusion affairs committee.

**SPONSORED BY:** Benjamin Floyd Williams, President Alpha Sigma Phi - Zeta Epsilon; Alexander Wilson, Vice Chair of Accessibility Caucus, Senator of SDC; Body Project Team, at CSU; Alexandra Pereskokova, Colorado State University '25 Psychology Student; Sammy Trout, Chair, Accessibility Caucus, Associate Senator, Student Disability Center; Claudia Paraiso, ASCSU Speaker Pro Tempore; University Affairs Committee

**ENDORSED BY:** Nicholas DeSalvo, President of Associated Students of Colorado State University; Ashton Duffield, Director of Finance ASCSU; Evan Welsch, Deputy Director of Housing Security; Danny Collins, Students; Abraham Mapatano, Dean Student Leadership Council Member; Jordan Kingsbury, Casual eSports Association President, Spring '24 English Student; Owen Bockman, '25 Marketing, Student Colorado State University; Ryan Amisi, '27 Computer Science student Colorado State University; Davis Agnibakou, College of Natural Sciences Student; Jennifer Litzau, President of Rams Organizing for Animal Rights; Gilbert Leal Jr., Certified Clinical Medical Assistant, '26 Biomedical Sciences Student; Danielle Bonesteel Colorado State University '26 Psychology Student; Faith Vigil, Colorado State University '99 (BA, Political Science), '03 MEd. Instructional Leadership and Human Resource Studies; Victoria Lacey, B/AACC Office Manager and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Member; Bri Caiazzo, Colorado State University '27 Biology Pre-Vet Student and member of Co Gamma Pi Beta Phi; Leticia Madrigal, Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; Jorja Whyte, Director of Health



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Wellness; Chigozie Ozor, Associate Senator of the Black/ African American Culture Center;  
Joseph Godshal Director of International Affairs;

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*ABSTRACT: This bill aims to establish a new caucus of the ASCSU Senate to create agency within Colorado State University students with the purpose of placing the power back in the hands of students. Ultimately this caucus will allow students a voice on issues that are direct to students. This caucus will allow students a valued seat in the space that was designed for students.*

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**WHEREAS**

The Associated Students of Colorado State University are an organization intended to be representative of Colorado State University Fort Collins college students. The demand for a caucus which invites student leaders on campus into the space with the purpose of being involved with campus-legislation which pertains to students is critical. Driving forces of this caucus can be traced to our constitution, *"We the Students of Colorado State University hereby establish a government by the students for the students, based upon the principles of equality and inclusivity for all, to participate fully in both its formal and informal*

*Activities"*. Which speaks to our values as an organization which cites student voice and participation at the top of the list.

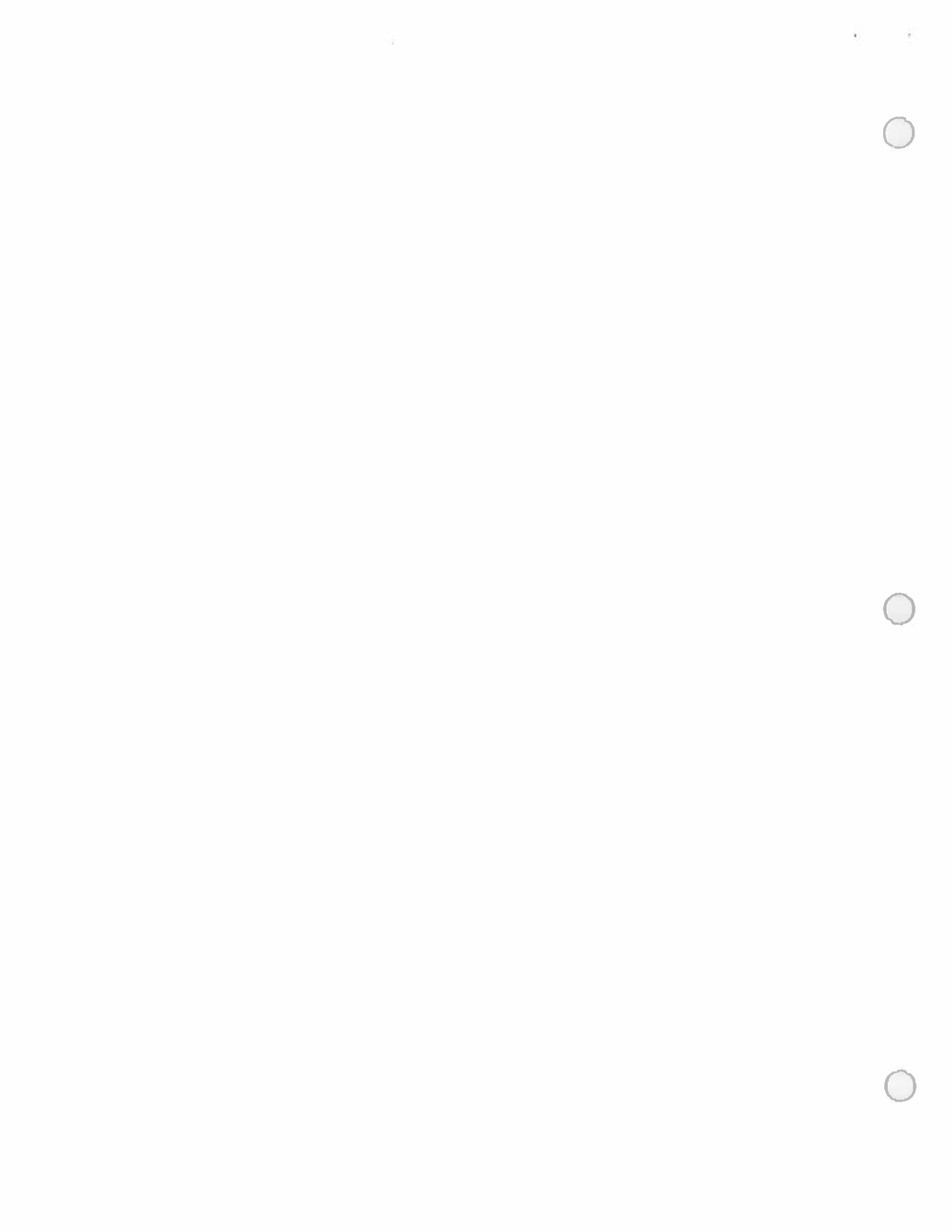
**WHEREAS**

This caucus can serve its purpose by being the perspective ASCSU needs to balance the power dynamics of the ASCSU Executive Cabinet, Senate and Judicial on Legislation that impacts students.

It provides a forum to give students the space to express interest about the matters we prioritize as an organization.

**Declaration of rights Title I,**

The Students of Colorado State University shall have the right to self-governance including the right to recommend student fees and the right to participate in administration of those student fees; the right to fair, functional, accessible, and



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productive representation by student government; the right to have their needs and concerns represented by ASCSU on any level; and the right to easily access student government representation and the right to lobby on the state level.

**WHEREAS**

It has been cited by many officials in ASCSU, that there is not enough student involvement in legislation and decision-making. This caucus will provide the platform for students to be in the conversation.

The Students of the Oval caucus will provide the platform for students to be directly involved with the legislation, members of ASCSU create/pass/or deny.

The importance of students being actively represented in this space has been acknowledged by many ASCSU Officials

“Colorado State University Serves Students from everywhere, and that breadth of representation must be reflected in student government” - *Nick DeSalvo, ASCSU President.*

“There are a lot of students that want to be in this space but are fearful (to join) because they need accommodations” - *Alexander Wilson, Former Vice Chair, Accessibility Caucus; Former Senator, Student Disability Center*

**WHEREAS**

Caucus Members will include those students who have a vested interest in the activities of ASCSU — students who are interested in the work being orchestrated by ASCSU and headed by a newly appointed Chairperson.

**WHEREAS**

The term “college student” is defined as an individual who is a full-time or a part-time student attending an institution of higher education; Colorado State University, thus they should be permitted contribution to legislation as they are the consumers of the Associated Students at Colorado State Universities actions, policies, and services.

**Declaration of rights Title III,**

Every Colorado State University student has the right to be recognized as a community, state, and national and an international citizen; the right to be treated with respect and professionalism by all administrators, faculty, staff, and fellow students; the right to freedom from discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, gender, disability, veterans’ status, political beliefs, handicap, creed, genetic information, or sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression.



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

A caucus of ASCSU shall be established, called the Students of the Oval Caucus, with the purpose of giving student's a seat at the table to speak to: Student concerns, that the organization may not be hearing. Students will be given the space to speak to specific-organizational issues that ASCSU could aid with.

The powers of this caucus are included but not limited to student concerns with "bills/lex's/resolution(s)" and Budgets.

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

The Students of the Oval caucus will partner with Associated Students of Colorado State Universities organizational leaders to inform and be Informed on various all-encompassing matters pertaining to students. This caucus will bridge the gap in how students view and interact with the Associated Students of Colorado State University. The goal is to have students view ASCSU as a resource instead of an authoritative force. The Students of the Oval Caucus will encourage students to be involved in the legislative and democratic process that ASCSU upholds. The students of the OVAL caucus will be an open forum for the officials from the three respected branches; Executive, Judicial, and Legislative to place value in the direct voice and opinions of students.

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

The Chairs and Vice Chairs of this Caucus shall be seats occupied by 1 member from all 3 respective branches (Ex. 1 Senator | 1 Exec | 1 Justice ), who will fulfill the following responsibilities:

i.

The Chair will not be a voting member except in the case of a tie. The chair shall work closely with their Vice Chair for the agenda. They will also work closely with their cabinet to ensure the caucus works properly and maintains decorum. The Chair will also be responsible for actively reaching out to students outside of the Associated Students of Colorado State University, to get students involved within the Caucus.

ii.

The two Vice Chairs will be voting members of the Caucus and shall assist in the reading and presentation of assigned legislation(S). Vice will be responsible for assisting the current Chair in verifying the accuracy within ASCSU governing documents, monitoring the dialogue to enforce germane conversation within Caucus, and assisting the Chair with creating the agenda.

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





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The Students at the Oval caucus shall create their own governing documents, and,

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

The Students of the Oval Caucus shall seek involvement from students on campus to include a wide range of voices and opinions; and,

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

The caucus shall seek to collaborate with members from registered student organizations and other Colorado state university stakeholders; Students that the caucus deem fit to find solutions. to the concerns raised; and,

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

The caucus shall be reestablished pending standard caucus renewal procedure.

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**PASSAGE AND ENACTMENT OF BILL 5318 SESSION  
OF PASSAGE**

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Yays-Nays-Abstentions

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**SENATE PASSAGE: 25<sup>th</sup>**

**DATE: 4/3/2024**

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Fifty-Third Senate

of





ASCSU PRESIDENT NICK DESALVO

*Nicholas Desalvo*

DATE 4-8-24

RESOURCES

Sam Hutton (2024, February 10). ASCSU reflects, looks to future in State of the Association Address. The Rocky Mountain Collegian.

<https://collegian.com/articles/news/2024/02/category-news-ascsu-reflects-looks-to-future-in-state-of-the-association-address/>

Sam Hutton (2024, February 10). This Week in ASCSU: Elections Committee Accessibility Guidelines. The Rocky Mountain Collegian.

<https://collegian.com/articles/news/2024/02/category-news-this-week-in-ascsu-elections-committee-accessibility-guidelines/>

THAT THIS LEGISLATION SHALL BE FORWARDED TO

- Amy Parsons**, President of Colorado State University
- Tony Frank**, Chancellor of the CSU System
- Blanche Hughes**, CSU Vice President for Student Affairs
- Ben Schrader**, ASCSU Advisor
- Evan Welch**, ASCSU Advisor
- JoAnn Cornell**, Director of the Asian Pacific American Cultural Center
- Duan Ruff**, Director of the Black/African American Cultural Center
- Dora S. Frias**, Director of El Centro
- Maggie Hendrickson**, Director of the Pride Resource Center
- Tyrone Smith**, Director of the Native American Cultural Center
- Justin Dove**, Director of the Student Disability Center

ARCHIVE INFO [Parliamentarian Use Only]

INTRODUCTION DATE/SESSION: 3/18/2024

ARCHIVE DATE

COMMITTEE'S REVIEWED: University+DEI

MONETARY? N

