

FRESHMAN SENATE BILL #25

TITLE: ASUW Freshman Senate Support for Blood Equality

DATE: 31 October 2012

AUTHOR: Senator Gilman

SPONSORS: Senator Kath, Senator Sciascia, Senator Yang

1. WHEREAS, the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) policies discriminate blood
2. and tissue donors based on sexual orientation and it is illegal for men who have had sex with men after
3. 1977 to donate; and,
4. WHEREAS, these policies violate the Equal Protection Clause of the United States Constitution and
5. are outdated, misguided, and based on stigma rather than science; and,
6. WHEREAS, modern medicine and technology have made the detection of HIV and AIDS in donors'
7. blood inexpensive, cheap, rapid, precise, and accurate; and,
8. WHEREAS, the ASUW Freshman Senate should recognize the imperative for a new federal blood
9. and tissue donor policy and equity in its application; and,
10. WHEREAS, the ASUW Freshman Senate should also recognize the critical value of blood and tissue
11. donation drives because of the national blood shortage paired with high demand for donations; and,
12. WHEREAS, the ASUW Freshman Senate should advocate federal policy change not through
13. suspension of said drives, but through responsible action that values the civil rights of LGBT men and
14. the life of those in need of blood and tissue donations.
15. THEREFORE, be it enacted that the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming Freshman
16. Senate strongly state its disapproval of the current FDA policies in a petition sent to U.S. Senators
17. Enzi and Barrasso, U.S. Congresswoman Cynthia Lummis, and the FDA;
18. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that the Freshman Senate host a "Sponsor Drive" at every University
19. of Wyoming campus blood and tissue donation drive, outlined in Addendum A.

Referred to: _____

Date of Passage: _____

**“Being enacted on _____, I do hereby sign my name hereto
and approve this Senate action.” _____**

Freshman Senate Presiding Officer

Addendum A

Policy

Recommendation #1

From the date of enactment of this bill, the ASUW Freshman Senate should host a “Sponsor Drive” at every University of Wyoming campus blood and tissue donation drive as part of a new tradition.

The ASUW Freshman Senate Sponsor Drive should consist of volunteers who "sponsor" an LGBT student by giving blood or tissue in his name. All donors should be asked to sign a petition to the FDA and Wyoming's U.S. congressional delegation to lift its ban on blood and tissue donations from men who have had sex with men (MSM).

Recommendation #2

The Freshmen Senate should strongly market this program. Shirts identifying sponsor donors should be purchased, and pamphlets or other marketing material to spread awareness of the MSM ban should be carried on the person of each donor to be given to other students.

Recommendation #3

Faculty, staff, and students should be asked to sign the petition to lift the MSM donation ban.

Recommendation #4

These Sponsor Drives should be suspended in the event that the MSM ban is lifted.

Implementation

Recommendation #5

The Freshman Senate Spirit and Traditions and Programming committees should jointly host and advertise this event at each UW campus drive, and volunteers from the Senate or the UW/Laramie communities should be invited to join as well.

Communication

Recommendation #6

The ASUW Freshman Senate Sponsor Drive should be advertised in the ASUW newsletters sent via university email and through any other means necessary to spread awareness of the program throughout campus.