SENATE RESOLUTION #1585

Title: Twenty-one Drinking Age

Introduced: December 1, 1987

Thesis: This establishes the ASUW in opposition to the raising of the nineteen drinking age.

Sponsor: Jim Egan

1. Whereas raising the state drinking age to 21 would not change overall consumption, and whereas establishing the state drinking age to 21 will simply shift drinking from supervised college and community drinking situations to unregulated, underground activities, and whereas studies have shown that young problem drinkers will obtain alcoholic beverages regardless of the law, and whereas a thorough National Highway Transportation and Safety Administration report shows that alcohol plays a role in a greater percentage of fatal accidents in the 21-year-old, the 22-24-year-old, and the 24-44-year-old age groups than in the 16-17-year-old, and the 18-19-year-old, and the 20-year-old age categories, and whereas nationwide, 99% of those under 21 have never been convicted of a drunk driving violation, and whereas states that have raised their drinking ages have experienced a rise in alcohol-related auto deaths among young adults (Minnesota, Massachusetts, and Florida), and whereas a hike in the drinking age in Wyoming would not only arbitrarily dis-criminate against and punish young adults as a group, it would also prove particularly unfair to women, who are responsible for a disproportionately small percentage of alcohol-related auto accidents and fatalities in all age groups, and whereas the federal government's attempt to deny highway funding for states who refuse to raise their drinking age amounts to no-thing more than blackmail and is a violation of federal jurisdiction,
22. therefore, be it resolved that the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming opposes the raising of the drinking age in Wyoming and
23. calls upon the Wyoming State Legislature to maintain the drinking age
24. at 19.

Referred to: Consumer and Student Living Committees

Date of Passage: ___________________________ Signed: ___________________________

"Being enacted on ___________________________, I do hereby sign my name hereto
and approve this Senate action."

______________________________
ASUW President

Failed 2-25-0

February 2, 1988