

## SENATE RESOLUTION #2015

**Title:** UW Students Reject Higher Education Act Drug Provision

**Date:** October 25, 2002

**Authors:** Students for Sensible Drug Policy

**Sponsors:** Senators Jones and Kirkbride

1. WHEREAS, a provision in the Higher Education act of 1998 mandates that
2. students convicted of any drug-related offense (without regard to the nature
3. of the offense or the offender) be denied eligibility for financial aid for
4. periods ranging from one year to “indefinite,” and~~;~~
5. WHEREAS, no other class of offender (including those convicted of rape or
6. other violent offenses) faces similar restriction on student loan eligibility; and
7. WHEREAS, this provision will, by its very nature, impact primarily students
8. of low to moderate economic means; and
9. WHEREAS, this provision will also have a discriminatory impact on people of
10. color, as their communities are disproportionately targeted for enforcement of
11. the drug laws (e.g., African Americans, who comprise 12% of the nation’s
12. population and 13% of drug users, make up 55% of those convicted of drug
13. offenses); and
14. WHEREAS, to the extent that the federal government involves itself in
15. education, it should be focused on making it easier, not more difficult, for
16. citizens to educate themselves; and
17. WHEREAS, education is an important factor in allowing people to become more
18. productive, well-rounded citizens.

19. THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Associated Students of the University of
20. Wyoming that we call upon the 107<sup>th</sup> United States Congress to overturn the section
21. of the Higher Education Act of 1998 that denies or delays access to financial aid
22. based upon convictions for drug-related offenses.

Referred to: Committee of the Whole

Date of Passage: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

(ASUW Chairperson)

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

ASUW President

1<sup>st</sup> reading 10/29/02 2<sup>nd</sup> reading 11/5/02

“DO PASS” 11/5/02

Tabled voted 11/12/02

DO PASS Recommendation failed 11/12/02

3<sup>rd</sup> reading 11/12/02

dispersed

did not pass  
18 against  
11 for