SENATE BILL #2071

Title: Student Initiated Ballot Referendums

Date: March 9, 2004

Authors: Constitution Committee

Sponsors: Senators Chollak, R. Hernandez, Hughes, Kice, Owens, Rising, Student-at-Large Markovic

1. WHEREAS, the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming elect
2. annually a student government to represent them before the UW
3. Administration; and
4. WHEREAS, the scope of that representation is often hindered due to the
5. time constraints placed on those who hold these elected offices due to their
6. commitments to scholarships and other service organizations in which they
7. are involved; and
8. WHEREAS, direct participation from the general student population would
9. increase the effectiveness of the ASUW governing body; and
10. WHEREAS, a mechanism exists by which students may place amendments
11. to the ASUW Constitution on the ballot of the general election; and
12. WHEREAS, no similar mechanism exists to place upon the general election
13. ballot any issues which do not directly effect the ASUW Constitution.
14. THEREFORE, be it enacted that any member of ASUW may bring forward
15. an issue to be placed upon the ballot of a general election held by ASUW; and
16. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the proposed language for any such
17. initiative be presented to the ASUW Senate during a regular meeting of the
18. body and be accompanied by signatures representing no less than five percent
19. (5%) of the current enrollment of the University of Wyoming; and
20. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that any such initiative brought forth
21. shall be subject to verification of at least 50% of the signatures which
22. accompany the initiative by a process designed at the discretion of the ASUW
23. Elections Committee; and
24. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that such verification should be
25. completed within thirty (30) days of the presentation of the signatures to the
26. ASUW Senate; and
27. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that any such initiative must be presented
28. to the ASUW Senate no less than forty-five (45) days prior to the next general
29. election in order to secure enough time for the verification process to be
30. concluded; and
31. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that in matters of extreme importance
32. which must be dealt with in a more immediate time period, a special election
33. for any such initiative can be called with the approval of two-thirds (2/3) of
34. the voting Senate; and
35. THEREFORE, be it further enacted the ASUW Senate shall have the power
36. to limit the number of such initiatives to be placed on a ballot if, in the
37. opinion of a majority of the Senate, an excessive number of such initiatives
38. are presented for a single ballot; and
39. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the language of such measures may
40. not be changed by the ASUW Senate; and
41. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that any such initiative that is put to a
vote of that student body and is approved by a majority of those voting in the
election shall be forwarded to the ASUW Executive branch where steps for
its enactment will be made, but only when the intended changes proposed in
such initiatives are under the direct control of ASUW; and
THEREFORE, be it further enacted that any other such initiatives that have
been approved by a majority of voting students that is beyond the scope of
control of the ASUW but are in reference to issues affecting the UW Campus
shall be forwarded to the ASUW President who will present the results of
such elections directly to the UW Trustees for their consideration at the next
UW Trustees meeting following approval of such initiatives; and
THEREFORE, be it further enacted that any such initiative passed by a
majority of those students voting on said measure may be repealed by a
vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting Senate; and
THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the language contained in Addendum
A be added to the ASUW By-Laws as Article IV – Elections, Section 5,

Student Initiated Referendums.

Referred to: Elections Committee

Date of Passage: ______________________ Signed: ______________________

(ASUW Chairperson)

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

______________________________

ASUW President

[Handwritten notes: 3/30/04, Still in Committee 3/30/04, Failed Indefinitely]
Section 5  Student Initiated Referendums
A. Any ASUW member may institute an item to be placed upon the
Ballot of any regularly scheduled general election for a referendum
Vote.
1. The exact language of the issue as it will appear on the
ballot, accompanied by signatures representing at least 5% of
the currently enrolled student population of the
University of Wyoming, shall be presented to the ASUW
Senate during a regularly scheduled meeting of the body.
2. Upon presentation of the ballot measure to the Senate, a
minimum of fifty percent (50%) of the signatures
accompanying the proposed measure shall be verified a
process to be determined by the ASUW Elections
Committee. The verification process shall be completed no
more than thirty (30) days following presentation of the
proposed ballot measure to the ASUW Senate. All such
measures must be presented no less than forty-five (45)
days prior to the next scheduled general election. Any item
that is deemed to be of such extreme urgency that action
must be taken outside of a regularly scheduled general
election can be voted on at a special election with the
approval of two-thirds (2/3) of the voting senate.
3. The ASUW Senate shall have power to limit the number of
such measures on any ballot if the majority of the voting
Senate determines that an excessive amount of such
measures exist on any ballot.
4. The ASUW Senate shall not amend the language to any
such student initiated measure.
5. It shall be the duty of the ASUW Executive Branch to work
to enact any such measure passed by a majority of the
voting student body, so long as that measure is under the
direct control of the ASUW Senate. Any measure that is
passed by a majority of the voting student body that is not
under the direct control of the ASUW Senate, but is in
reference to any campus issue, shall be forwarded to the
ASUW President and shall be presented to the University
of Wyoming Trustees for their consideration at the next
regularly scheduled meeting of the Trustees.
6. Any measure approved by the student body on any ballot
may be overridden by the vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the
voting senate.