

SENATE BILL #1384

Title: Unbiased publicity for elections

Codification Number:

Introduced: January 19, 1981

Thesis:

Sponsor: Jesse Yeatts

1. Be it enacted by the Student Senate of the Associated Students of the
2. University of Wyoming that all publications and programs supported by
3. this organization shall abolish any practices and policies that may
4. be construed as an endorsement of or for particular individuals in
5. contention for elected positions with ASUW.

Referred to: Steering, Elections, Pub Board

"DO NOT PASS" 1/20/81 *"DO" 1/20/81* *PASS "4/1/81"* *"DO NOT PASS" 1/27/81 for information*

Date of Passage: _____ Signed: _____

ASUW Senate Chairperson

"Being enacted on _____, I do hereby sign my name hereto and approve this Senate action": _____ ASUW President

1st reading 1/20/81
2nd reading 1/23/81
3rd reading approved 1/23/81

JANUARY 26, 1981

TO: ASUW Senators
FROM: Student Publications Board
RE: Senate Bill 1384

Fellow Senators:

At the January 22 meeting of the Student Publications Board, the board voted unanimously to express its disapproval of Senate Bill 1384, introduced by Senator Yeatts.

The bill seeks to impose a specific editorial policy on all ASUW supported publications. Editorial policy is one of the powers of the publisher; under Uni-Reg 38, the Student Publications Board is the publisher of all ASUW supported publications. The board has always maintained a policy of freedom from editorial interference. The editorial policy of each publication is left to the student editors, who have been selected by the board. The board rejects any attempt to change this policy of operation.

However well intentioned, the bill imposes a form of censorship on student publications. Rather than increasing the flow of information, it bans certain information. This is contrary to the direction of Uni-Reg 38, which reads "The preservation of a press free from censorship and outside intrusion is of the highest concern and importance on the University of Wyoming campus."

Uni-Reg 38 also provides that the publisher oversee the student publications. As publisher, the board knows of no past

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abuses by its editorial staff which would require a review of its policy. If there is a problem with specific instances of abuse, the Publications Board is the proper forum and not the ASUW Senate.

The Student Publications Board requests that you do not pass Senate Bill 1384.

Sincerely,

Tad Kline (nm)

Tad Kline, Chairman

TK:rm