## SENATE BILL #2780

**TITLE:** Defining and Reducing the Scope of the Associated

**Technical Services** 

**DATE INTRODUCED:** February 1st, 2022

**AUTHORS:** President Swilling

**SPONSORS:** Senators Castronovo, Ewalt, and Smith

1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW)

2. Student Government is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,

3. WHEREAS, ASUW currently funds and operates the Associated Students Technical Services

4. (ASTEC), whose mission statement is "to serve the students of the University of Wyoming

5. (UW) by providing production technologies, programming, and event consultation to create a

6. platform for expanding student ideas, enhancing the impact of presentations and

7. performances, and developing co-curricular education."; and,

8. WHEREAS, the scope of ASTEC is currently defined by Senate Bills #2528, #2546, and

9. #2618; and,

10. WHEREAS, ASTEC has been faced with recent budget cuts, in tandem with the rest of

11. ASUW and UW, which has resulted in a reduction of resources available; and,

12. WHEREAS, these budgets cuts have caused other entities at the University of Wyoming to

13. turn to ASTEC as a free means of providing lighting and technical services for their events;

14. and,

15. WHEREAS, ASTEC has attempted to scale their services according to the need of other

16. University departments and requests; and,

17. WHEREAS, these demands on ASTEC have grown beyond their resources, requiring

18. increased financial needs, staffing, and equipment; and,

19. WHEREAS, in fall of 2021, a plan was negotiated to attempt to meet these needs by creating

- 20. a co-coordinator model for ASTEC, both of whom would be full-time staff members who
- 21. would be paid \$48,000 per year, plus fringe benefits of \$23,952 per year, for a total cost of
- 22. both positions of \$143,904; and,
- 23. WHEREAS, these funds were proposed to come from the fee increase that the ASUW
- 24. Business Office was requesting, which, if approved in full, would have been enough to fulfill
- 25. these new budgetary requirements; and,
- 26. WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees made an adjustment to ASUW's fee increase that ended
- 27. up resulting in \$55,120 less being collected than was initially projected; and,
- 28. WHEREAS, due to this change, we cannot afford to hire two co-coordinators; and,
- 29. WHEREAS, this has resulted in us moving down to one coordinator for ASTEC; and,
- 30. WHEREAS, due to difficulties in hiring, we currently do not even have one ASTEC
- 31. coordinator; and,
- 32. WHEREAS, even when a coordinator is hired, with only one coordinator, ASTEC simply
- 33. cannot continue to operate with the same large scope that it has been operating on since the
- 34. passage of SB #2618 in spring 2018; and,
- 35. WHEREAS, the potential for adding additional resources to ASTEC is minimal at this time;
- 36. and,
- 37. WHEREAS, reducing the scope of ASTEC's services to solely the Wyoming Union, Prexy's
- 38. Pasture, and Simpson's Plaza is the most viable solution for the stabilization and long-term
- 39. health of ASTEC and its employees; and,
- 40. WHEREAS, Senate Bill #2546 requires that a full review of ASTEC's scope shall be
- 41. conducted by the ASUW President and the ASTEC Coordinator before the end of Fiscal
- 42. Year 2022; and,

- 43. WHEREAS, this bill shall serve as the fulfillment of that requirement.
- 44. THEREFORE, be it enacted that the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
- 45. (ASUW) Student Government hereby reduces the scope of the Associated Students
- 46. Technical Services (ASTEC) to requirements and eligibility as outlined in Addendum A;
- 47. and,
- 48. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that these changes shall go into effect immediately upon
- 49. enactment of this bill; and,
- 50. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the ASUW President and the ASUW Assistant
- 51. Director, or another member of the business staff, shall go over this legislation with the new
- 52. ASTEC Coordinator, when one is hired.

Referred to: Budget and Planning; Program and Institutional Development

**Date of Passage:** February 8th, 2022

(ASUW Chairperson)

"Being enacted on February 8th, 2022

, I do hereby sign my name hereto and

approve this Senate action."

**ASUW President** 

## Addendum A

The Associated Students Technical Services (ASTEC) shall provide free services audio, visual, and technical services for all programming put on by UW student organizations for UW students hosted in the Wyoming Union or immediately adjacent outdoor areas, including Prexy's Pasture and Simpson's Plaza. UW departments that host student-based events may use ASTEC services, as long as these events are located in the Wyoming Union or immediately adjacent outdoor areas. The ASTEC Coordinator shall have the power to charge a fee for use of ASTEC services to all University departments that utilize ASTEC services, in accordance with the UW Fee Book. Student organizations shall never be charged a fee.

ASTEC's services will no longer be available to any university departments unless the event is student-based and located in the Wyoming Union or immediately adjacent outdoor areas. With the approval of the ASTEC Coordinator, an exception may be made to this policy in the form of notable sempiternal events. These events shall be considered of significant importance to the University of Wyoming as a whole, with an established track record of success. Examples include MLK Days of Dialogue or the Shepard Symposium. The ASTEC Coordinator shall create an application for such exception requests, detailing the nature of the event and the merit of accommodating such an exception.

To help compensate for the reduction of services, ASTEC will also be provide a rental service for university departments. All University departments interested in renting equipment must sign a liability waiver for the equipment before the event. The University department will be liable for any damages during the rental period. If damages occur, the department must complete an order

for purchasing replacement equipment within 20 days of the event. ASTEC shall not be responsible for delivering or setting up any rented equipment and is prohibited from doing so. The ASTEC Coordinator shall be responsible for developing either written instructions or an instructional video that demonstrates set-up, operation, and troubleshooting for available equipment. All University departments must verify to ASTEC that they understand the instructions prior to signaling the liability waiver and picking up equipment. The ASTEC coordinator shall also provide the equipment instructions through the rental confirmation email to ensure the renter has continuous access to this information.