



SENATE BILL #2953

TITLE: Steering Committee Power to Steer Back to Author

DATE INTRODUCED: 03/05/24

AUTHOR: Senator Keasling

SPONSORS: Senators Grimm, Gundling, Hennigar, Langford, and Relaford;
Chief of Legislative Affairs Knopp; First-Year Senator
Fink, First-Year Senator Mackenzie, First-Year Senator Jackim

1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) is to serve our fellow students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, the 111th Administration has brought forth many pieces of legislation to
4. codify precedence; and,
5. WHEREAS, a precedent of Steering legislation back to author was established in the
6. 110th Administration and prior administrations as well; and,
7. WHEREAS, ASUW has had to consider many pieces of unreasonably contentious
8. legislation because there is not a codified rule to steer back to author which resulted in
9. these pieces of legislation being sent to committees and ultimately to the Senate floor
10. where the senate spent lengthy debate on these bills and either voted them down or
11. tabled them indefinitely; and,
12. WHEREAS, the Steering Committee has the power to steer back on the basis of "Sole
13. Subject" as provided in Addendum A; and,
14. WHEREAS, allowing the Steering Committee to steer back to author for incomplete
15. legislation or legislation that needs more work prior to adequate consideration before the
16. Senate will help alleviate this issue; and,
17. WHEREAS, if the Steering Committee sends a legislation back to author the senate will

Passed 22-0-0

18. be notified and allowed to override the decision of steering by a 2/3 vote to hear the
19. legislation with a first reading at that meeting and a second reading meeting at the
20. following meeting.

21. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
22. (ASUW) Student Government that the ASUW By-Laws be amended as reflected in
23. Addendum A; and,

24. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the ASUW Rules and Procedures be amended
25. as reflected in Addendum B; and,

26. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that Steering Committee has the power to steer back
27. legislation on the basis of it being incomplete or the committee believing that there needs
28. to be more work on the legislation before it can be adequately considered by the senate
29. body; and,

30. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that steering back on the basis of not liking the
31. legislation is not allowed or any other reason not listed in the amended working
32. documents unless further legislation addresses that matter; and,

33. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that this legislation goes into effect immediately
34. upon passage.

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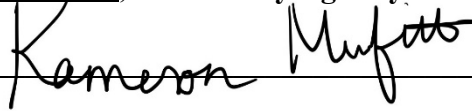
Referred to: AD&P, PID, and Steering

Date of Passage: March 19th, 2024

Signed: 

(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on March 19th, 2024, I do hereby sign my name hereto and approve this Senate action.”



ASUW President

Addendum A

F. The ASUW Steering Committee

b. Powers: The Committee shall refer proposed ASUW legislation to ASUW standing or special committees for specified action or recommendation prior to final consideration by the Senate. The Committee may refer bills to itself as long as the legislation is steered to at least one (1) other committee or to itself except when:

- i. Legislation that oversees Articles of Impeachment and direct discipline of an ASUW member is introduced.

The Committee shall have the power to change any formatting, grammar, and spelling errors of proposed legislation. These changes will be made with Committee consensus, as long as these edits do not change the intent or function of the proposed legislation as written by the author(s). The committee shall have the power to determine whether or not submitted legislation follows the “Sole Subject” Rule and furthermore shall have the power to return the legislation to the author if the committee finds that it violates the “Sole Subject” Rule. The committee shall submit a written rationale to the author as well as recommendations for how to amend the bill in accordance with the ruling interpretation of the “Sole Subject” Rule. The committee shall have the power to compose an interpretation to be voted on by the committee, this interpretation shall be the ruling interpretation of the “Sole Subject” Rule and govern whether or not a Bill/resolution follows the Rule. [The committee shall have the power to refer legislation back to the author\(s\) if the committee believes that the bill is incomplete or needs further work before it can be adequately considered as legislation. To prevent abuse of this committee's power, legislation cannot be steered back more than three times. The committee shall provide written rationale to the author\(s\) and recommendations on how to amend the legislation to address the concern of the Committee.](#) Further, the Committee may recommend the procedure for implementing consideration of ASUW decisions, actions, or legislation after final action by the Senate, and the committee shall provide regular reports to the Senate on the status or final outcome of all matters that require action by officials outside of the ASUW. The Committee will be responsible for the review of all proposed amendments to the ASUW Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules and Procedures to ensure that those working documents remain consistent with the purpose of the ASUW and its Constitution. The Committee shall review all ex-officio applications and submit approved applications to the ASUW Senate. The Committee shall have the power to investigate and administer warnings and take disciplinary actions against violations of the ASUW By-laws, Rules and Procedures and Senator Handbook. The Committee shall have the power to review any legislation regarding roles, reformations, and duties of committees. The Committee shall also make a bi-monthly report of those Senators who have failed or are currently failing to meet their Senatorial duties as outlined in the By-Laws. The Committee shall be vested with all necessary and appropriate powers to carry out its purpose under these rules.

Addendum B

Article 5. ASUW Legislative System

Section 5.01 ASUW Legislation Mechanics

1. All bills or resolutions shall be submitted to the ASUW Secretary, or the relevant position, in writing, at least two (2) class days prior to the day of their introduction on the floor.
2. The ASUW Secretary, or the relevant position, shall number the bills and resolutions according to the order of their introduction on the floor.⁷
3. The bill or resolution shall be headed by the statement "Senate Bill number" or "Senate Resolution number" respectively.
4. The title, date introduced, the author(s) and the sponsor(s) name(s) shall follow the heading.
5. In the case of a bill, the first therefore clause shall begin by stating "Be it enacted by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming (ASUW) Student Government..."
6. In the case of a resolution, the proposal shall be in the form listed in the latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order, Revised.
7. If the bill or resolution shall be of such a technical nature that the definition of pertinent terms or explanation of any portion shall be necessary, this shall be added as an addendum to the legislation.
8. A bill shall be an action to be held binding upon the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming, or their officers and administrators.
9. A resolution shall be a statement of the opinion of the Senate of the ASUW and binding upon that body alone.
10. Each line of the resolution or bill shall be numbered to facilitate debate and changes.
11. The bill or resolution shall conclude with the following statement: "Being enacted (resolved) on (date of passage) I do hereby sign my name hereto and approve this Senate action. (signature) ASUW President."
12. The ASUW Secretary, or the relevant position, will forward all legislation to the ASUW Steering Committee so that it can refer the proposed ASUW legislation to the proper ASUW permanent or special committee for specified action or recommendation.
13. Defebaugh Clause
 - A. All finance bills shall be automatically referred to the appropriate finance committee.
14. Bills may be referred to more than one committee by the Steering Committee for extended deliberation with the provision that the bills be considered separately and all changes made during committee proceeding be reconciled by the respective chairpersons of the committees to which the legislation was referred. The reconciled legislation must be considered by the original committees for a second vote.
15. If Steering returns a piece of legislation to its author, the chair of the Steering committee shall notify the Senate when that legislation would be up for first reading.

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A. If legislation is returned to author and the Senate is notified, the Senate can vote by motioning and seconding to introduce the legislation overriding the decision of steering by a 2/3 vote. The motion must contain where the legislation should be referred to.

~~15.~~ 16. If the chairpersons and committees are unable to reconcile differences in the legislation before

the scheduled second reading, the legislation may be withheld from the ASUW Senate until reconciliation is complete.

~~16.~~ 17. Chairpersons will jointly report the results of committee proceedings during regularly scheduled ASUW Senate meetings.

~~17.~~ 18. The ASUW Secretary, or the relevant position, shall reproduce the proposed bills and resolutions and provide copies to the Senators prior to the Senate meetings.