



SENATE BILL #2978

TITLE: Creation of DIA Transportation Shuttle Services for UW Students

DATE INTRODUCED: 04/02/24

AUTHOR: Ex-Officio Mahoney, Student-at-Large Smith, ASUW Director of Justice and Equity Medina, ASUW Director of Wellness Malles, Chief of Legislative Affairs Knopp

SPONSORS: President Murfitt, Senator(s): Gomelsky, Brown, Moore, Keasling Worcester, Saint First Year Senator(s): Hargett, Shosh, Morales; Committee: Advocacy Diversity and Policy, Student(s) at Large: Ivan Sapien, Grant Dillivan, Blessing Ajisafe, Kimika Hinoshita, Payson Webb, Quinton Brooks, Caleb Sundquist, Madeline Sorensen, Student Organization(s): International Students Association, Student Survivor Group, Women's Club Hockey Team, Crocheting with Care, Criminal Justice Club, Club Racquetball, Student's for Reproductive Rights, UW Martial Arts, Friends of Nepal, First-Generation at the College of Law, Cowboy Climbing Club, Animal Science Graduate Student Association, Chess Club, Political Science Club, Model United Nations Club, United Multicultural Council, University of Wyoming Women's Rugby Team, Turning Point USA, Wyoming Wellness Advocates, Graduate Student Network, Japanese Conversation Club, Wyoming Student Society of Health-System Pharmacists, Student Art League, Sigma Phi Epsilon, Young Communists League, Academy of Student Pharmacists, Sustainability Coalition

1. WHEREAS, the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) is to serve the students in the best manner possible; and,
3. WHEREAS, international students face undue challenges and stress upon their
4. arrival due to the lack of transportation from the Denver International Airport (DIA);
5. and,
6. WHEREAS, faculty, staff, and student volunteers have routinely picked up international
7. students from the airport; and,
8. WHEREAS, this issue is not unique to International Students given that not all students
9. can drive to DIA freely; and,
10. WHEREAS, students are obligated to pay large sums of money for alternative
11. transportation to Laramie as seen in Addendum A without prior knowledge of the cost;

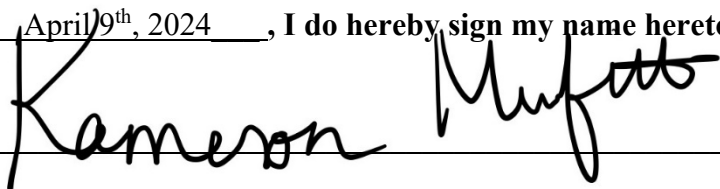
12. and,
13. WHEREAS, the University of Wyoming (UW) has the resources to provide
14. transportation from the airport to Laramie through charter buses with a 55 people
15. and luggage capacity and/or smaller vans with an 8 person and luggage capacity; and,
16. WHEREAS, all students will benefit from free transportation to and from DIA; and,
17. WHEREAS, a DIA shuttle service has been provided by ASUW to the student body
18. Before (Addendum B) with great success as seen in Addendum C, and;
19. WHEREAS, international students during a United Multicultural Council (UMC)
20. meeting expressed how the absence of this service directly impacts international
21. students; and,
22. WHEREAS, the International Students Association (ISA) provides a statement of
23. support as reflected in Addendum D; and,
24. WHEREAS, the Asian and Pacific Islander Student Association (APISA)
25. provides a statement of support as reflected in Addendum E; and,
26. WHEREAS, the Indian Students' Association (MILAAP) provides a statement of
27. support as reflected in Addendum F; and,
28. WHEREAS, the Bangladesh Students' Association (BSA) provides a statement of
29. support as a reflected in Addendum G; and,
30. WHEREAS, Charter Services has quoted \$1362.16 to be the cost of one round trip for a
31. charter bus that seats a maximum of 55 people; and,
32. THEREFORE, be it enacted ASUW pledges to spend money to provide this service
33. annually unless another campus entity subsidizes the cost in the future; and,
34. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that there will be at minimum two University of
35. Wyoming (UW) fleet vehicles, prior to the Fall semester one two weeks before the
36. beginning of the Fall Semester coinciding with International Student Orientation, and
37. one week before the beginning of the fall semester coinciding with Saddle Up Moving
38. day, two at the end of the Fall semester, two prior to the start of the Spring semester and
39. two at the end of the Spring semester from Denver International Airport to the UW; and,
40. THEREFORE, be it enacted that \$10,897.28 from the ASUW carry-over account be
41. allocated for a new line item titled "ASUW DIA Transportation Shuttle Services"
42. in the FY25 ASUW budget; and,

Passed 22-0-0

43. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that the ASUW executive branch in conjunction
44. with the ASUW professional staff will administer reservations, unless another campus
45. entity is more appropriate and willing to handle such reservations as determined by the
46. Vice President of Student Affairs Kim Chestnut; and,
47. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that this legislation be sent to the UW Transit
48. Department and International Student Services, Director of International Student
49. Services Jill Johnson, and Vice President of Student Affairs Kim Chestnut.

Referred to: B&P, AD&P, and HOPE

Date of Passage: April 9th, 2024 Signed: 
(ASUW Chairperson)

“Being enacted on April 9th, 2024, I do hereby sign my name hereto and approve this
Senate action.” 
ASUW President

Addendum A

Table 1 Transportation Options from Laramie to DIA Price Comparison

	Cost Per Student	Cost Per 55 Students (\$)	Cost Per One Round Trip (55 students)
Groome Transport.	\$84	\$4,620	\$9,240
Shorelight	\$248	\$13,640	\$27,280
Fare From Laramie Regional	\$263	\$14,465	\$28,930
Proposed Plan	\$25	\$1,362.16	\$1,362.16
Difference between 1 and 4	\$59		
Difference between 3 and 4	\$238		

* values in this table are estimates from the Groome Transportation Website: [Wyoming Shuttle - Groome Transportation - Book Now](#), from based on estimated cost for a flight to Laramie Regional Airport context provided in Figure 2, and from the high value shown in Figure 1 below plus an additional \$15 the university charges as shown in Figure 3

Passed 22-0-0

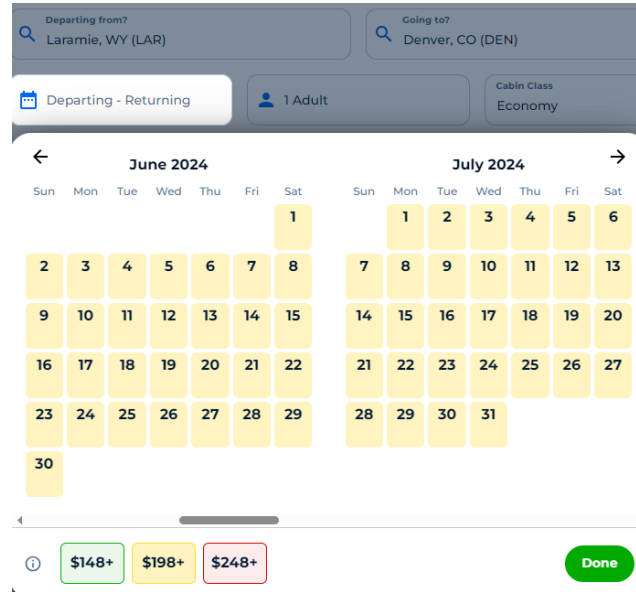


Figure 1 Laramie Regional Airport to DIA flight prices

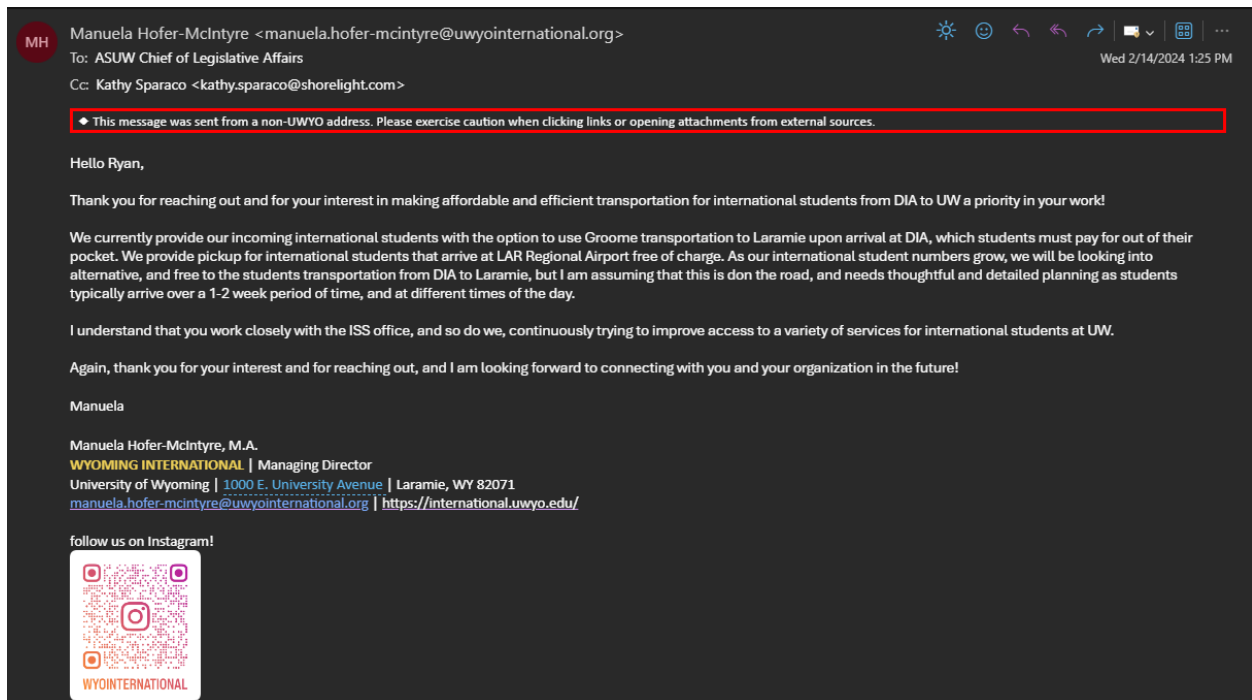


Figure 2 Shorelight Email Communication

** International students wishing to use this service must a. be a Shorelight student and b. purchase a flight from Denver International to Laramie Regional in order to take advantage of this service (price of flight is reflected on Table 1)

TRANSPORTATION SERVICES	<h2>AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION</h2>
MENU	
SAFERIDE	Although Transportation Services does not provide general transportation to/from the Laramie Regional Airport or the Denver International Airport, there are several resources available. List of alternative transportation resources around the Laramie area.
PARATRANSIT SERVICE	
HOLIDAY SCHEDULE	University of Wyoming International students may qualify for airport transportation from the Laramie Regional Airport before the start of the semester. See below for details.
AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION	
ALTERNATIVE	
TRANSPORTATION	International Student Airport Shuttle The closest international airport to Laramie, Wyoming is Denver International Airport (DEN) in Denver, Colorado. You should fly first to Denver International Airport (DEN) and then make your way to Laramie.
CHARTER RENTALS	From Denver International Airport (DEN), there are two ways to get to Laramie that we recommend:
ADVERTISING IN BUSES	
Contact Us Transit Services Office: 2102 S. 15th St. Phone: (307) 766-7433 Fax: (307) 766-9804 Email: tps@uwyo.edu	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. You can fly directly in to the Laramie Regional Airport. The airport offers United Express/SkyWest Airlines flights to Laramie from Denver daily. If you need shuttle service from Laramie Regional Airport into town, please email Transportation Services (tps@uwyo.edu) with your request no less than 14 days before your arrival. This service costs \$15 which will be added to your student bill. If your plans change or you make other arrangements for transportation, please let Transportation Services know as soon as possible. Otherwise, you will still be billed the \$15 charge regardless of whether you used the service or not.2. Groome Transportation DIA Airport Shuttle also provides regular shuttle service from the Denver International Airport to Laramie. Rates are around \$80. Groome Transportation can deliver you right to campus. <p>Regardless of how you get to Laramie, please let ISS know your travel arrangement as soon as possible if you haven't already done so. We must know when our new students are expected to arrive. You can email this information to International Students and Scholars.</p> <p>Requesting the Laramie Airport Shuttle Service Email Airport Shuttle Requests to (tps@uwyo.edu) with the following information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Student's name2. Student ID (W #)3. Flight #4. Departure and arrival date and times5. Destination (a campus location or apartment) <p>Please Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We only offer this service before the start of each semester for University of Wyoming International Students• Bookings for the spring semester are available between January 2nd through February 15th• Bookings for the fall semester are available between August 1st through September 15th• Reservations must be made at least two weeks in advance• A \$15.00 charge will be made directly to the student's account

Figure 3 University of Wyoming Offered Transportation Alternatives

Addendum B

SENATE BILL #2094

Title: **Transportation between University of Wyoming Campus and Denver International Airport**

Introduced: **October 21, 2004**

Authors: **President Willms and Executive Sporkin-Morrison**

Sponsors: **Senators Hernandez and Jordan**

1. WHEREAS, there is no service that provides ground transportation from
2. Laramie to Denver International Airport (DIA); and
3. WHEREAS, various University departments and students have recognized
4. the need for ground transportation to DIA to be offered to students; and
5. WHEREAS, such a service would be best utilized on December 16, 17, and
6. 18, 2004 and on January 7, 8, and 9, 2005 to coincide with the start and end of
7. the University of Wyoming Winter Break; and
8. WHEREAS, the UW infrastructure includes such resources as vehicles and
9. insurance which make providing this transportation service feasible; and
10. WHEREAS, financial support from University departments and the
11. Associated Students of the University of Wyoming is needed to provide the
12. service to students at an affordable cost.
13. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Associated Students of the University of
14. Wyoming that \$3,000 be allocated from the ASUW reserve account to
15. implement a transportation service to DIA prior to and at the end of UW's
16. Winter Break for Academic Year 2004-05; and
17. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that any unused portion of the allocation
18. be deposited into the ASUW reserve account; and

19. THEREFORE, be it further enacted that ASUW's share of ticket sales be
20. deposited into the ASUW reserve account.

Referred to: Budget and Planning Committee

Date of passage: November 2, 2004 **Signed:** *Mary McGonigal*
(ASUW Chairperson)

"Being enacted on Nov. 5, 2004, I do hereby sign my name

hereto and approve this Senate action." *David Willard*
ASUW President

Addendum C

ASUW 5-Year Plan FY 2006-2010

IV. ASUW Programs

Safe-Ride

Safe Ride has been operational since the 2000-2001 academic year. Its ridership has increased in each subsequent year to over 20,000 riders in academic year 2003-2004, and projected ridership in academic year 2004-2005 of ~26,000. Increased ridership has led to increased problems in managing the program including funding, safety, and efficiency.

Recommendations:

ASUW should implement the Safe Ride Strategic Plan of 2005. Additionally, ASUW should seek to turn over operations of the fixed-route van system to Auxiliary Services, the City of Laramie, or another vendor who would maintain a comparable service. Outside funding sources should be sought for the on-call system from the city, local businesses, and state, federal, and private grant dollars.

Areas of Collaboration:

ASUW should seek consultation from individuals in Fleet Operations and TransPark for the day to day operations of the program. Some collaboration may be possible with local businesses and the city for advertising and funding. Enterprise, or a similar business should be considered for vehicle partnership.

DIA Transportation

The lack of affordable transportation to DIA was viewed by ASUW as concern among students. In response, ASUW conducted a pilot DIA shuttle over the FY05 winter break. Round trip and one-way tickets were offered at a subsidized rate with the help of many campus donors. 155 of the 162 available seats were sold, and the feedback from the campus community has been very positive. The service was offered again over the 2005 spring break with 87 of the 90 available seats being sold.

Recommendations:

Because of the program's success and continued demand, establishing regular service to DIA at peak times during the year for UW students should be an annual priority for ASUW leadership. Key elements of the service should include subsidized ticket prices to students, service operation during Winter Break, and Thanksgiving Break, with the potential option of increasing the service to include Spring Break, the beginning and end of the academic year, and Summer Orientation sessions. Ultimately, it should be the goal of ASUW to assist another University entity or outside vendor in permanently developing the service.

Areas of Collaboration

Any area of the University or Laramie community interested in permanently offering the service or assisting in funding the service should be considered, including but not limited to the Laramie Regional Airport, Enterprise Rent-a-Car, and TransPark. Use of campus resources such as University of Wyoming Risk Management and Auxiliary Services will also be necessary for continuing this program.

Addendum D

From: International Student Association 2023-2024 (ISA)

To: University of Wyoming, ASUW

Subject: Statement of support/Endorsement of bill

Dear Senators,

I hope this letter finds you well! I wanted to reach out to you on behalf of the **International Students Association (ISA)**, at the University of Wyoming. Our main goal is to create a vibrant and inclusive community that celebrates diversity and fosters cross-cultural understanding among students, faculty, and staff. International students, their diversity in culture, religion and other aspects have been one of the most prominent parts of our University of Wyoming. Every year, the number of incoming international students have been increasing which have created a wonderful experiential learning atmosphere in our university. Diversification of students have augmented the and promoted several prospects of culture, religion, and other different activities in and around campus which not only have enriched cross-cultural exposure but also have fostered the student's growth and their capacity building. University of Wyoming has been home to thousands of international students and have endorsed students from more than 100 countries every year, and it is so fascinating to observe such a profound multicultural environment.

One of the major challenges for the new incoming international students is the transportation facilities from Denver International airport to campus. University of WY recruits hundreds of international students each semester, however, a 3 hrs. drive with an approximately \$100 USD fare have been becoming more hurdle and a significant challenge for the fellow incoming students. An expensive fare, with other challenges associated with Uber/Groome rides and bad weather have supplemented the additional problems for our incoming new students. An inconvenience seems to be spiking as the incoming students have been increasing every semester which have aroused an urgency of reliable mode of university transportation. A reliable mode of transportation is the very first thing that students require to arrive the university, which has been becoming a more of an essence. A reliable mode of university transportation will not only save expensive fare but also will ensure the safety of our students and will avoid other potential problems that students might have to face.

A reliable mode of transportation is a mandatory and must important agenda and will support the growth of our international students as well as our university. It is therefore, our entire team of ISA would like to endorse the bill created by ASUW and fully support their initiative.

Passed 22-0-0

If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We will truly appreciate your consideration and support. We look forward to hearing from you and hope to making this joint effort a success.

Warm regards,

Samir Budhathoki

President, ISA

sbudhat2@uwyo.edu

Addendum E

From: Asian and Pacific Islander Student Association 2023-2024 (APISA)

Subject: Statement of support/Endorsement of bill

Dear Senators,

I am reaching out on behalf of the Asian and Pacific Islander Student Association (APISA), a student organization supporting Asian, Asian-American, and Pacific Islander students on the University of Wyoming campus. Our primary goal is to support Asian and Pacific Islander (API) students in the academic, social, and professional realms through community-based programming. It is our mission to provide an inclusive community to students from all walks of life, Wyoming natives and otherwise. International students make up a robust and valuable part of our API community at the University of Wyoming. Our lives are deeply enriched by the perspectives, cultural insights, and friendships they provide. In turn, it is our duty to make the University of Wyoming a warm and welcoming home-away-from-home.

It is with this duty in mind that we at APISA support the ASUW bill ensuring a reliable mode of transportation for international students arriving at Denver International Airport on their journey to the University of Wyoming. Safe, reliable transportation is the first thing a student requires upon arrival and is a telling precedent of their time to come at the university. This initiative will not only support the growing population of international students on campus but all students, faculty, and community members whose personal and professional lives have been bettered by our international community.

Sincerely,

Natasha Loving

President, APISA nloving@uwyo.edu

Addendum F



From: Indian Students' Association 2023-24 (MILAAP)

To: University of Wyoming, Senator office

Subject: Statement of Support/Endorsement of bill

Dear Senators,

On behalf of the Indian Students Association/ MILAAP at the University of Wyoming, I wholeheartedly endorse the bill to allocate funds for providing reliable transportation from Denver International Airport to our campus for incoming international students.

Our university is home to a diverse and vibrant international student community, representing over 100 countries. However, the current transportation options for these students are inadequate and pose financial and logistical challenges. A three-hour drive with a hefty fare of \$100 USD and upwards can be a daunting obstacle for our incoming students, especially when considering the additional expenses associated with settling into a new environment.

Providing a reliable and affordable mode of university transportation will not only alleviate the financial burden on our international students but also ensure their safety and well-being upon arrival. This investment will foster a more welcoming and inclusive environment, allowing our international students to focus on their academic endeavors and contribute to the rich cultural tapestry of our campus.

We urge you to consider the immense value that this bill holds for our international students, our university, and the wider community. By supporting this initiative, you will be demonstrating our commitment to diversity, inclusion, and the success of all our students.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Sincerely,

Payan

Dwaipayan Chakraborty

President, The Indian Students' Association/ MILAAP

Co-chair, United Multicultural Council

Addendum G

From: Bangladesh Students' Association 2023-2024 (BSA)

Subject: Statement of support/Endorsement of bill

I trust this message finds you well. I am writing to express my sincere support, as the President of the Bangladesh Students' Association, for the proposed bill that aims to arrange travel from Denver International Airport to our campus for international students.

This initiative holds immense significance, considering the challenges international students face upon their arrival at Denver International Airport (DIA). I vividly recall my own experience, where a delayed shuttle caused a two-hour wait at the airport, amplifying the already exhausting journey from a distant location to Laramie. The physical and mental strain of such travel is considerable, and the prospect of reaching the destination promptly becomes a priority. Understanding the firsthand difficulties, I appreciate the thoughtful consideration given to addressing this issue. Your proposed bill aligns perfectly with the needs of our international student community, ensuring a smoother transition from the airport to campus life.

On behalf of our organization, I want to convey our wholehearted endorsement of this excellent initiative. We stand united in support of becoming sponsors for the bill. The positive impact of this measure on the well-being and integration of international students cannot be overstated, and we are eager to contribute to its success. If there are any specific actions or further details required from our end to bolster this cause, please do not hesitate to inform us. We look forward to witnessing the positive changes this bill could bring to the experiences of our international student community.

Thank you for championing this cause, and we appreciate your dedication to improving the overall well-being of our international students.

Best Regards,

Imran Reza
Ph.D. Candidate and GRA
Department of Civil & Architectural Engineering & CM
President, BSA-UW
Engineering Hall, Room #3069
University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY-82071