**SENATE BILL #2621**

**TITLE:** Changes to Senator Candidate Requirements

**DATE INTRODUCED:** April 10, 2018

**AUTHORS:** Senator Westlake

**SPONSORS:** Senator Defebaugh, Gunter, Kennedy, Rubino, and Mueller

1. WHEREAS, it is the purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
2. (ASUW) Student Government to represent the concerns of the student body; and,
3. WHEREAS, senate vacancies are a continual challenge to the mission of the ASUW Student
4. Government; and,
5. WHEREAS, the ASUW Senate’s elections policy currently prohibits freshman and non-
6. traditional undergraduate students with less than 24 credit hours to participate in Senate; and,
7. WHEREAS, non-traditional students make up 22% of the undergraduate student population
8. at University of Wyoming; and,
9. WHEREAS, freshman students make up 11% of the student population at UW; and,
10. WHEREAS, taking into account both of these populations, 33% of students are often
11. underrepresented within the ASUW Senate; and,
12. WHEREAS, the mission of the ASUW Student Government is to represent all students
13. accurately; and,
14. WHEREAS, the ASUW Student Government does not proportionally represent the total
15. number of non-traditional and freshman students compared to traditional students; and,
16. WHEREAS, freshman and non-traditional students should have the option to represent all
17. students; and,
18. WHEREAS, the ASUW Student Government should help support distinct underrepresented
19. groups on the UW campus; and,
20. WHEREAS, after completing one semester at the University of Wyoming (UW)
21. students are well connected to the campus and capable of representing the concerns of the
22. student body if voted for; and,
23. WHEREAS, ASUW Senate vacancies could be filled by any student that has completed at
24. least one full semester at UW; and,
25. WHEREAS, this would both increase motivation and retention within the Senate and
26. alleviate the ASUW Senate from chronic vacancies; and,
27. WHEREAS, this would give students more diverse options to vote for their representatives of
28. their college; and,
29. WHEREAS, providing students with more candidate options will increase the quality and
30. strength of equal and accurate representation within the ASUW Senate;
31. THEREFORE, be it enacted by the Associated Students of the University of Wyoming
32. (ASUW) Student Government that the ASUW Elections Policy be amended to reflect the
33. changes in Addendum A.

**Referred to:** \_\_\_\_­­­­ \_\_\_\_\_Advocacy, Diversity, and Policy\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Passage:** **Signed:**

**(ASUW Chairperson)**

**“Being enacted on** **, I do hereby sign my name hereto and**

**approve this Senate action.”**   **ASUW President**

## Addendum A.

## ELECTIONS POLICY

## ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Section 6. Candidate Requirements:

1. A candidate for Senator must meet the following requirements:
2. They must be student enrolled at the University of Wyoming and an ASUW fee paying student, and maintain this status.
3. They must have and maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average as an undergraduate and a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average as a graduate or professional student or a 2.0 if the program does not require it.
4. At the beginning of their term they must have completed at least twelve (12) hours of university credit as an undergraduate student, or nine (9) hours of university credit as a graduate or professional student.
5. They must have completed no less than twelve (12) of those hours at the University of Wyoming as an undergraduate student, or, as a graduate or professional student nine (9) hours at the University of Wyoming.
6. They must submit an application by the required deadline (as outlined in Section 1, Subsection C of this Article) provided by the Elections Commission.
7. They cannot be a currently serving member of the ASUW Judicial Council. In the event that an individual who wishes to declare their candidacy for Senator and is currently serving as the ASUW Chief Justice or a Justice, they must resign as a member of the ASUW Judicial Council in order to officially declare their candidacy when filing closes.
8. All candidates for Senator will run individually.
9. Both candidates on a ticket for ASUW President and Vice President must meet the following requirements:
10. They must be a full-time ASUW fee paying student.
11. They must have and maintain a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average as an undergraduate and a minimum 3.0 cumulative grade point average as a graduate or professional student or a 2.0 if the program does not require it.
12. They must submit an application by the required deadline (as outlined in Section 1, Subsection C of this Article) provided by the Elections Commission.
13. They must have completed no less than sixty (60) hours of university credit by June 10 of the calendar year in which they was elected as an undergraduate student, or, as a graduate or professional student, they must have completed no less than eighteen (18) hours of university credit by June 10 of the calendar year in which they was elected.
14. They must have completed no less than twenty-four (24) of those hours as an undergraduate student, or, as a graduate or professional student, eighteen (18) hours, at the University of Wyoming.
15. Candidates for President and Vice President will run jointly, on a combined ticket. Students will not be able to vote for a President and Vice President individually, but must instead vote for a ticket. All election rules will apply jointly to candidates for President and Vice President running on the same ticket.
16. They cannot be a currently serving member of the ASUW Judicial Council or the ASUW Elections Commission. In the event that an individual who wishes to declare their candidacy or is currently serving in one of these capacities, they must resign as a member of the ASUW Judicial Council or the ASUW Elections Commission in order to officially declare their candidacy when filing closes.
17. Candidates for President and Vice President who wish to be eligible as candidates for Senator must submit a separate application (by the required deadline as outlined in Section 1, Subsection C of this Article) to run for Senate.