



The Student Senate

Of the Associated Students of Western Washington University

Viking Union 527 ■ Bellingham, WA 98225 ■ (360)-650-6455

Resolution Regarding **Marriage Equality** January 18th, 2011

Whereas, it is the responsibility of student senate to support the diversity of our student population and

Whereas, equality of rights for all members of the educational community need to be addressed and

Whereas, students with same-sex parents can only report the income of one parent when applying for financial aid, creating a distorted picture of their economic situation and

Whereas, marriage is a civil right that has been affirmed by the Supreme Court and

Whereas, Domestic partnerships express a separate but equal policy, that is inline with segregation policies of the past and

Whereas, Domestic Partnerships have been proven to cause hardship on same sex couples when their rights are challenged and

Whereas, marriage is defined as a civil institution and

Whereas, the governor of Washington State has introduced a bill to recognize the rights of same sex couples to marry

Therefore, be it hereby resolved that, the ASWWU Student Senate supports the following when it comes to the Marriage Equality:

- Recognizing the right of same-sex couples to marry.
- Supports legislation that will recognize such rights,
- Advises the AS Board of Directors to support such legislation
- Advises the Legislative Affairs Council to explicitly advocate for the passage of such legislation in Washington State.