The Students for Sustainable Water would like to help end selling water bottles on campus by a student vote. The Students for Sustainable Water decided to go the initiative route rather than with the referendum. Getting student signatures will simultaneously raise awareness and gain support. With a good discussion with the club and other students in support Anna has developed the language she would like to use.

“We the students of WWU, find the selling of bottled water to be an unsustainable practice and strongly urge the university to take action to discontinue the sales and distribution of bottled water.”

“Shall we the students of WWU find the selling of bottled water to be an unsustainable practice and strongly urge the university to take action to discontinue the sales and distribution of bottled water on campus?”

The purpose for this is for the board to approve language so the club can collect signatures to get it on the ballot for spring. Here is a section of the Election Code that addresses initiatives.

Section 2: Student Initiative Procedure

“I. Filing

a. Any measure may be placed on the ballot by any student eligible to vote in the AS elections (see Section 3, clause VI for eligibility requirements). In order for a proposed measure to be placed on the ballot, its sponsor(s) must:

(1) submit the language of the proposed measure to the AS Board of Directors Program Assistant and obtain the approval of the Board of Directors for that language prior to the collection of signatures. Ballot initiatives must be in the form of a question presented to the student body that can be answered in the affirmative or the negative. Once the language of the proposed measure is submitted to the AS Board of Directors Program Assistant and added to the Board Meeting agenda, the Board must approve, approve with amendments or reject the language at its next three meetings. The Board of Directors may only reject the proposed measure if its language is deemed misleading, or if there is reasonable concern about the legality of the proposed measure. The Board of Directors may only amend the language of the measure in a way that does not affect its substantive content. Students are advised to submit the language of the measure for review as early as is feasible.”

Thank you,
Sara Richards