



Associated Students of Western Washington University
Board of Directors

A Resolution Regarding A bill to update the Bylaws to ensure fairness in future legislation.
June 2014

WHEREAS, it is the duty of ASWWU to fairly represent the diverse interests and views of all students at the Western Washington University and to foster dialogue, learning and an inclusive campus atmosphere; and,

WHEREAS, the Western Washington University has an obligation to focus its attention and resources primarily on addressing issues of immediate concern to the student body and to promoting the general welfare of the student body; and,

WHEREAS, it is detrimental to campus life and the welfare of the Western Washington University student body to exacerbate tensions related to foreign conflicts between student groups on campus; and,

WHEREAS, any actions contributing to the unfair alienation and demonization of one or more student groups on campus on the basis of identity are entirely unacceptable and contrary to Western Washington University values; and,

WHEREAS, civil dialogue should be promoted as the method to resolve conflicts among members of ASWWU, as the appropriate pathway toward mutual understanding; and,

WHEREAS, any efforts leading to or contributing to demonization and stigmatization of any one party in a conflict are detrimental to the causes of peace and justice and therefore help perpetuate the conflict; and,

WHEREAS, the ASWWU should not support any campus-based activities, programs or groups that exhibit, promote tacitly or overtly, or indirectly cause disrespectful bias, hate, harassment or hostility against an individual or campus group because of the individual or group's actual or perceived race, color, creed, religion, national origin, identity, gender, gender identification, age, marital status, disability, veteran status and/or sexual orientation; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following section should be added to the ASWWU bylaws:

Section _____. Boycott and Divestment Legislation

- A) ASWWU will use Freedom House's "Freedom in the World" report¹ and/or another objective human rights ranking system as a guideline when considering divestment legislation.
- B) Any legislation calling for boycotts and/or divestment from companies doing business in or with any single country must also target all companies doing business in or with every country with a worse human rights ranking.

¹ <http://www.freedomhouse.org/report/freedom-world/freedom-world-2013>

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