



Associated Students of Western Washington University

Board of Directors

A Resolution Regarding Scent-Free Zones

February 2017

WHEREAS, although the Associated Students discourages wearing excessive perfume or cologne during Fall Training, perfumes, colognes, oil diffusers, air fresheners, and other products are widely used; and,

WHEREAS, Environmental Sensitivities (ES) describes a chronic condition whereby a person has symptoms when exposed to certain chemicals or other environmental agents at low levels tolerated by most people according to the Women's College Hospital; and,

WHEREAS, approximately 12.6% of the population suffers from chemical sensitivity; and,

WHEREAS, symptoms commonly include difficulty breathing, sleeping and/or concentrating, memory loss, migraines, nausea, abdominal pain, chronic fatigue, aching joints and muscles, and irritated eyes, nose, ears, throat and/or skin; and,

WHEREAS, up to 72% of asthmatics report their asthma is triggered by fragrance according to the Fragranced Products Information Network; and,

WHEREAS, symptoms such as those caused by exposure to fragrances impairs employees and can cause reduced productivity, reduced engagement, and absences; and,

WHEREAS, the presence of heavily scented items causes the Associated Students to be a hostile, unwelcoming, unaccommodating environment for both employees and students at large; and,

WHEREAS, the AS Disability Outreach Center (DOC) has recognized fragrance as a concern and is currently in favor of establishing a scent-free zone; and,

WHEREAS, the Associated Students prides itself on being an organization that is open and welcoming to all students;

BE IT RESOLVED, The Associated Students hereby establishes all its offices and events as scent-free zones, effective immediately; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, employees will not be permitted to wear perfumes, colognes, or body spray; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, air fresheners, oil diffusers, potpourri, and other products designed to change the scent of the air may not be used in any Associated Students office; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, no Associated Students Office may host an event featuring an activity or vendor involving products that may be fragranced (such as scented markers) or that may change the quality of the air; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, all employees will receive Scent-Free Zone training during both Summer Training and Fall Training; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, all current employees will receive training during Spring Training as a stop-gap for the 2016-2017 school year only; and,

BE IT RESOLVED, any instance of scent use violating the Scent-Free Zone will be reported to the Personnel Office for conflict resolution.

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