WWU students, on behalf of Kyle Jiganti, would like to Implore the Associated Students of Western Washington University to urge the University Police and Residence Life to assemble a compact and definitive substance policy guide, and enact a Good Samaritan Law on campus to practice harm reduction. Currently, finding the specific substance policies on campus requires a student to look at multiple sources and speak with a number of WWU staff members. This was even an issue covered in the 2014 fall quarter edition of The Fairhaven Free Press. Having a cohesive guide for substance policies pertaining to all aspects of the university is essential if we, as a student body, want our peers to be aware of impediments to their education.

As for harm reduction, we can see throughout the United States, drugs such as MDMA and LSD are being used in an unsafe fashion. With two kids dying at a local rave in Seattle to ten students being hospitalized at Wesleyan in February, something needs to change to help students. With laws in place such as the Good Samaritan Fatal Overdose Prevention Law, the number of overdoses has gone down substantially.

Unfortunately, Residence Life does not have any such rules in action. People are going to drink alcohol and take drugs regardless of the law. We need to have a Good Samaritan Law in place on campus that protects people from getting in trouble for calling for help. In no way will this promote drug use. Needless to say, no one wants to overdose, but it is a very real problem that we must face, and enacting a Good Samaritan Law within Residence Life is how we can face it.

Shall the Associated Students of Western Washington University push for the AS Board of Directors to not only persuade Residence Life to work with the University Police to come up with a compact substance policy guide for the entire campus, but also get Residence Life to enact a Good Samaritan Law within the residence halls?