

3 June 1999

51 Legislative Council Bill #1

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
STUDENT UNION

Sponsored by: Andrew Luxen Representative

Authored by: Andrew Luxen Representative

A Bill

Bill History

This bill may also be known as the UCSU Proper Budget Authority Redistribution Act. Currently, the UCSU Proper budget is an ambiguous document with unclear lines of fiscal responsibility between the executive, legislative and judicial branches. Historically, Legislative Council leadership and the Executives have conflicted over the budget process. This has created unnecessary tension between the branches, and effectively excluded the judicial branch from offering formal input into the creation of the budget.

Bill Summary

This comprehensive bill addresses many of the deficiencies in the UCSU Proper budget process. Authority for Legislative Council's budget is re-invested solely in the legislative branch. The judicial branch's budget becomes the responsibility of that branch. The executive branch maintains control over its budget. A new category of line items called Shared Expenses is created. In an attempt to balance the cost each branch imposes on the total budget, the Shared Expenses category includes percentage ratios for various UCSU Proper expenses. The UCSU Director of Finance is invested with organizing each section into the total UCSU Proper budget.

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Student Union, THAT:

SECTION 1: The UCSU Proper budget, hereafter called "Budget," will be divided into four sections: Executive, Legislative, Judicial and Shared Expenses. All four of these sections together will compose the yearly Budget.

SECTION 2: The Legislative section will have line items including a Legislative Council Discretionary fund, for general Council costs; Student Payroll, for pay of Council officers, Joint Board chairs, Representatives and Council's recording secretary; a Representative Council fund, for Representative Council to allocate according to their By-Laws; a Council of Colleges and Schools fund, for the Council of Colleges and Schools to allocate according to their By-Laws; a Travel fund, for legislative branch travel; and a Long Distance telephone fund, for long distance telephone calls.

SECTION 3: The Executive section will have line items including an Executive Discretionary fund, for executive branch discretionary activities; a Student Staff Payroll fund, for pay of executive staff members; an Executive Payroll fund, for pay of the current executives; a Travel fund, for executive branch travel; and a Long Distance telephone fund, for long distance telephone calls.

SECTION 4: The Judicial section will have line items including a Student Payroll fund, for pay of Appellate Court justices as defined by Legislative Council legislation.

SECTION 5: The Shared Expenses section will have line items including a Public Relations fund, for the promotion and general public awareness activities of UCSU; a Legislative Affairs Commission budget, for the business of the Legislative Affairs Commission as defined in the UCSU By-Laws; an Operations fund, for the general operating costs of UCSU Proper; a Classified Staff fund, for the salaries and benefits of classified UCSU Proper employees; an Election Commission fund, for the salaries of the Election Commission and expenses associated with operating UCSU elections.

SECTION 6: The Shared Expenses section will be created by the Legislative Council President, one Executive and the Appellate Court Chief Justice. This working group (hereafter called "SHARED EXPENSES COMMITTEE") will meet together to prepare the Shared Expenses section well before Finance Board's deadline for receipt of the Budget.

SECTION 7: Responsibility for the oversight and authorization of the Shared Expenses section will rest in the SHARED EXPENSES COMMITTEE. The SHARED EXPENSES COMMITTEE will be chaired on a rotating basis beginning in the 2000-2001 Budget cycle by the Legislative Council President. The Executive will chair the 2001-2002 Budget cycle SHARED EXPENSES COMMITTEE and the Appellate Court Chief Justice will chair the 2002-2003 Budget cycle SHARED EXPENSES COMMITTEE. This rotation will continue in this alternating manner perpetually."

SECTION 8: The UCSU Director of Finance will serve as a resource and staff member to the SHARED EXPENSES COMMITTEE. The Director of Finance will advise the SHARED EXPENSES COMMITTEE of problems and areas of concern in the Shared Expenses section.

SECTION 9: Responsibility for the compilation and organization of the four Budget sections will rest with the UCSU Director of Finance. The UCSU Director of Finance will present copies of the total Budget, and appropriate quarterly reports and updates, to the Finance Board chair in a timely manner.

SECTION 10: The head of each branch of government will present their portion of the total Budget to Finance Board and Legislative Council. For the Executive section, the Executive will present; for the Legislative section, the Legislative Council President will present, and for the Judicial section, the Appellate Court Chief Justice will present.

SECTION 11: The fund balances of the Legislative, Executive and Judicial sections of the Budget will all belong to each individual branch. The heads of each branch will be responsible for creating fund balance requests, and other financial requests as directed by Legislative Council and Finance Board.

SECTION 12: The fund balance of the Combined Expenses section of the Budget will be returned in its entirety to the Supplementary Operating Reserve account.

SECTION 13: The UCSU Director of Finance will present the Shared Expenses section of the Budget.

SECTION 14: The 2000-2001 Budget, quarterly reports and updates, and all subsequent Budgets, quarterly reports and updates, will follow this format as directed by Finance Board.

SECTION 15: Finance Board will consider each section of the Budget individually for recommendation to Legislative Council. Legislative Council will consider each section of the Budget individually.

SECTION 16: For purposes of veto, the Executives may veto any section of the Budget.

SECTION 17: This bill takes effect upon passage.

6/3/99	Passed First Reading	10-2-2
6/17/99	Tabled	14-0-0
7/1/99	Passed Second Reading	12-0-0

Andrew Luxen, Leg. Council President

Tara Friedman, Tri-Executive

Daniel R. Pabon, Tri-Executive

Michelle Richardson, Tri-Executive