

September 30, 1999

51 Legislative Council Bill #13

**University of Colorado
Student Union**

Sponsored by: Scott Zakon Graduate Senator

Authored by: Daniel Pabon and Michelle Richardson Executives

A Bill

Bill History

Senate Bill 28, requires that all referenda approved before July 1, 1997 and expire after July 1, 2000, must be reapproved this spring. Because of this bill eight referenda groups will be required to rerun their referendum. This is a large problem due to lack of voter turnout and the large competition vying for referenda dollars. Also, in the past referenda has been approved by the majority of the voters but failed because of voter participation criteria were not met. A statistical average of voter turn out for both fall and spring elections is 10.73%

Bill Summary

This would place a constitutional amendment on the Fall 1999 ballot. If this amendment passed, referenda would have to be approved by a majority of votes cast, and with at least 10% of the students eligible to vote having voted yes.

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

SECTION 1: The following question be placed on the Fall 1999 ballot.

Currently, the requirements for passing a referendum are stringent. To receive referenda funding, student groups must have 15% of the student body voting in favor of their referendum. Over the past few semesters, voter turnout has been extremely low and even when a student group receives a landslide majority of votes, it is denied funding because not enough students participated. Student groups are being punished for general student apathy.

This amendment would slightly reduce the requirements so that a student group would need 10% of the student body voting in favor of the referendum. It will make referenda funding attainable for student groups that work hard to inform and motivate students.

Do you wish to amend Article XIII, Section C, Part 6 and change it
From: "To pass in popular vote, the referendum must be approved by a majority of voters and have at least fifteen percent of the students eligible to vote at the time of the election voting in favor of the referendum"

To: “To pass in popular vote, the referendum must be approved by a majority of voters and have at least ten percent of the students eligible to vote at the time of the election voting in favor of the referendum.”

SECTION 2: For the constitutional amendment to take effect, it must pass in accordance with Article XVI, Section D.

SECTION 3: This bill takes effect on passage by the Legislative Council.

9/30/99	Introduced	
10/14/99	Passed	10-3-0

Jerod Clark, Leg. Council President

Tara Friedman, Tri-Executive

Daniel Pabon, Tri-Executive

Michelle Richardson, Tri-Executive