



# Student Government

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

## University of Colorado Student Government Legislative Council

Date: December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012

78LCB02 – Election Code Reform

Sponsored by:

Tyler Quick

John Michael Tomczak

Rachelle Yeung

Zeke Johnson

Alicia Bock

Tri-Executive

Senator Journalism

Senator Law School

Representative-at-Large

Senator Environmental Design

Authored by:

Zeke Johnson

Representative-at-Large

## A Bill to Reform The Election Code

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### Bill History

The Election Code underwent several changes in September of the 77<sup>th</sup> session pertaining to timeframe and election offenses. However, in light of the recent CUSG and ASSG elections of Fall 2012, several more issues were identified. Some of these issues pertain to, yet are not limited to, election offenses and voting methods.

Specifically, the Election Commissioner occasionally issues ad hoc regulations, which fall under his purview of ensuring an effective and fair election. These regulations include limitations on the time and place that tabling and other forms of campaigning may occur. However, the Election Commission currently does not have the authority to punish violations of such ad hoc regulations because they are not codified under Section 6 of the Election Code. This bill grants the Election Commission authority to enforce those ad hoc regulations.

Furthermore, privacy and independence in voting, and confidentiality of voting choices, are fundamental aspects of free and fair democratic elections, but are currently impossible for student-voters at CU. This bill would establish safeguards for private voting by keeping electioneering a safe distance away from active voters and establishing official polling areas.

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## Bill Summary

**WHEREAS**, the Election Commissioner’s “primary responsibility is to ensure an effective and fair CUSG election” pursuant to §202: Duties & Responsibilities (a);

**WHEREAS**, the Election Commissioner has the duty to impose reasonable tabling regulations in exercising that responsibility, and the right to a mechanism for enforcing such regulations;

**WHEREAS**, violations of the tabling regulations adumbrated by the Election Commissioner and communicated to all related parties are necessary to foster fair and efficient CUSG elections;

**WHEREAS**, students furthering their educational development through CU-Boulder-sanctioned study abroad programs are not eligible to vote;

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**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Boulder Student Government, THAT:**

**Section 1:** Appends a new Election Code §614: Tabling, which states:

“The Election Commissioner has the right to impose tabling regulations including, but not limited to, locations and times, at the initial candidate’s meeting.

a) Each unique violation of these regulations shall levy two infraction points.”

**Section 2:** Appends a new Election Code §703: Constitutional Amendment and Referendum Funding, which states:

Any group advocating for the approval or rejection of a proposed amendment to the CUSG Constitution or Referendum allocating capital construction funds shall be allowed to spend up to \$6,000 so long as they do not advocate for or against a candidate or ticket for CUSG office.

**Section 3:** Repeal and nullify Election Code §301: Eligibility, which states:

“Any CUSG base fee paying member of the University of Colorado Student Union shall be entitled to vote.”

And appends a new Election Code §301: Eligibility, which states:

“Any CUSG base fee paying member of the University of Colorado Student Government or student enrolled in a Study Abroad Program sponsored by CU-Boulder shall be entitled to vote.”

**Section 4:** This bill shall take effect upon passage by the Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signatures of two Tri-Executives of the lapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.

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<b>Vote Count</b>		
<b>12/07/2012</b>	<b>Election Committee meeting: Divided bill into 77 LCB 23 and 78 LCB 02 Moved 78 LCB 02 back to Legislative Council</b>	<b>Acclamation Acclamation</b>
<b>12/13/2012</b>	<b>Postponed to next meeting</b>	
<b>01/17/2013</b>	<b>Failed on 1<sup>st</sup> reading</b>	<b>6-7-3</b>

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Brittni Hernandez  
Tri-Executive

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Colin Sorensen  
Legislative Council President

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Tyler Quick  
Tri-Executive

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Logan Schlutz  
Tri-Executive

