



University of Colorado Student Government
Legislative Council

January 25, 2014

80 LCB 06— Electioneering Bill

A Bill to Reform the Election Code

Sponsored by:	Wyatt Ryder	Election Commissioner
	Catherine Bogart	Journalism Senator
	Anna Henderson	Education Senator
	Colin Wichman	Representative-at-Large
	Mitchell Fenton	Representative-at-Large
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Bill History

For years, student inside and outside of CUSG have expressed interest in reforming elections in a way that provides for an alternative form of voting through the use of polling places. After years of discussion on the topic, it is the opinion of the author that the time has come to experiment with this option using a mixed system of polling places and online voting. This method has been successful at other Universities across the nation and has the potential to be equally as successful at CU.

THEREFORE BE IT ENACTED by the University of Colorado Student Government that:

Section 1: Append a new Election Code Chapter 13, Polls, and a new Election Code section 1301, Polling Places, which states:

- (a) The Election Commissioner shall oversee the installation and operation of at least four permanent polling places on main campus and at least one permanent polling place on East campus that shall be located in areas to be spread across the various Colleges and Schools of the University of Colorado Boulder.

- (b) Locations of polling places shall be well advertised, and the Election Commissioner shall release a list of the polling locations to the public one (1) week prior to the beginning of the election by various forms of communication.
- (c) For the purposes of this code, "Polling Place" shall consist of a University computer that contains access to the online voting system, located in an area that provides for voting in private.
- (d) Polling places shall open promptly at 9 AM each morning of the week of elections and shall close at 3 PM each afternoon the week of elections. Should the hours of operational voting need to be changed, the Election Commissioner shall inform the public in a timely fashion via various forms of communication.
- (e) Polling places shall be visibly marked and easily identifiable.
- (f) Each polling place shall contain at least two (2) polling stations, complete with University computers that allows access to the online voting system, and provides for voting in a private manner. The Election Commissioner may increase or decrease this number at his discretion.
- (g) Tables and/or materials used to encourage the election of or defeat of any ticket or candidate shall be prohibited within visible sight of any polling place, and are prohibited from being located within 50 feet of any permanent polling place.
 - a. The Election Commissioner shall physically mark the 50 foot boundary of each polling place prior to the beginning of the election period.
 - b. There shall be no active campaigning or idling within 50 feet of a polling place by any candidate, campaign manager, or volunteer.
- (h) Persons in line at the time of the closing of a polling place shall not be denied the right to vote.
- (i) To maintain the neutrality of a Polling Place, persons shall not be permitted to wear campaign materials on their person, including but not limited to buttons or shirts, while voting at a Polling Place.
- (j) If during an election the Election Commissioner determines that additional polling places are required, they shall submit written notice immediately to the Executive(s), Legislative Council President, CUSG office staff, candidates, and party officials.
- (k) In the event of an emergency, the Election Commissioner shall have the authority to suspend the use of polling places and shall communicate such changes immediately to the Executive(s), Legislative Council President, CUSG office staff, candidates, and party officials.
 - a. For the purposes of this Code, an "emergency" shall be any unforeseen event that prevents persons from voting in a safe and accessible manner, including but not limited to extreme weather conditions and campus closures.

Section 2: Append a new Election Code section 1302, Poll Watchers, which states:

- (a) For the purposes of this Election Code, a "Poll Watcher" shall be any person whom enters an agreement with the Election commissioner to provide for non-partisan and unbiased monitoring of any polling place during the course of an election.
- (b) The Election Commissioner shall be authorized to use any Election funds to pay a poll watcher as a Student Assistant 1, Step 1.

- (c) Poll watchers shall be hired at least four (4) weeks prior to the beginning of an election and shall receive training by the Election Commissioner prior to the beginning of an election.
- (d) Poll watchers shall have the authority to aide voters at polling places in the process of voting, and shall inform the Election Commissioner immediately regarding electioneering or violations of the Election Code.
- (e) Poll watchers shall be identified by uniform markings on their persons.
- (f) Poll watchers shall actively encourage voting throughout the week of elections.
- (g) The Election Commissioner is encouraged to hire members of the CUSG Appellate Court to serve as Poll Watchers, considering their neutrality and non-bias.
 - a. Should members of the Appellate Court be unable to serve as Poll Watchers, the Election Commissioner shall hire individuals whom demonstrate non-bias. Individuals hired as Poll Watchers shall not have run on a campaign or served as a volunteer for any ticket at any time.
 - b. Persons interested in become a Poll Watcher shall interview with the Election Commissioner, a CUSG staff member, and the Chief Justice of the CUSG Appellate Court to ensure non-bias.

Section 3: Append a new Election Code section 1303, Sunset Clause, which states:

- (a) Chapter 13 of this Election Code shall expire upon the lapse of 90 days after passage of this bill.

Section 4: Append a new Election Code section 611, Electioneering, which states:

- (a) Any person who campaigns within 50 feet of a polling place, or distributes or posts campaign related materials calling for the election of or defeat of any candidate or ticket during an election within 50 feet of a polling place, or any person that attempts to disrupt voting at a polling place shall be held liable for electioneering and shall receive four (4) infraction points per each unique offense.
- (b) For the purposes of this section, the publication of multiple copies of a single publication shall constitute one unique offense.
- (c) This section shall expire upon the lapse of 90 days of passage of this bill.

Section 5: This bill shall take effect upon passage by the Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signatures of two Tri-Executives or the lapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.

Vote Count

02/06/2014
02/06/2014
02/06/2014

Amendment to Sec. 1.g.b
Amendment to Sec. 1a
Failed amendment to Sec. 1.d

Acclamation
Acclamation
1-14-1

02/06/2014
02/06/2014
02/06/2014
02/13/2014
02/13/2014
02/13/2014

Motion to amend Sec. 1.e
Amendment to Sec. 1.e failed
Passed on 1st reading as amended
Author amendment to Sec. 1.e
Amended Sec. 1.g
Passed on 2nd reading

Acclamation
3-13-0
15-0-1
Accepted
Acclamation
Acclamation


Chris Schaeferbauer
President of Student Affairs


Juedon Kebede
Legislative Council President


Ellie Roberts
President of Internal Affairs


Marco Dorado
President of External Affairs