



Student Government

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

University of Colorado Student Government
Legislative Council

February 19, 2014

80 LCB 16 — Diversity Definition

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A Bill to Update CUSG's Definition of Diversity

Bill History

This bill updates the previous definition of diversity to bill 62LCB#8 and reflects recommendations by the Diversity Commission. While absolute diversity is indefinable, the Diversity Commission has concluded that diversity must be defined within specific contexts. The Diversity Commission has therefore sought input from all interested student groups in order to draft this bill updating the previous definition of diversity.

Bill Summary

The University of Colorado Student Government's Definition of Diversity was written on behalf of historically marginalized and underrepresented students as groups of people who have been and continue to be oppressed because of chosen or inherited identities. CUSG recognizes that within a diverse population, there are a multitude of ideologies, perspectives, and backgrounds. Diversity celebrates both individual and group differences, which include, but are not limited to, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, gender expression, immigration status, age, sexual orientation, race, economic background, nationality, sex, heritage, physical disability, mental disability, language and religion. The University of Colorado Student Government Diversity Policy is dedicated to building and maintaining a population of students, faculty, administration, and staff in which diversity is integral, essential and valued. Diversity is a natural and enriching characteristic of life necessary that sustains a progressive, dynamic and nurturing academic environments.

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

SECTION 1: Repeal and annul 62LCB#8:

And replace with the updated definitions of diversity below:

Ethnicity:

A classification or affiliation based on a social construct. Ethnicity defines individuals who consider themselves, or are considered by others, to share common characteristics that differentiate them from the other collectives in a society, with in which they develop distinct cultural behavior.

Age:

The length of time that one has existed, duration of life.

Gender Identity:

A person's personal view of his or her own gender. A person's gender identity may or may not conform to the conventional expectations for their birth sex.

Gender Expression:

The external presentation or appearance of a person's gender. A person's gender expression may differ from their gender identity. In contrast, gender is generally defined as a person's expression and/or presentation of some combination of masculine and/or feminine characteristics.

Sexual Orientation:

The way one defines their sexual attraction in relation to gender and sex.

Sex:

The property or quality by which people are classified as female, male, or intersex on the basis of their physical characteristics.

Race:

A social construct that artificially divides people into distinct groups based on characteristics such as physical appearance (particularly color), ancestral heritage, cultural affiliation, cultural history, and ethnic classification. Racial categories subsume ethnic categories.

Economic Background:

Past and/or current financial status.

Nationality:

The status of identifying as a member of a particular nation. Past and/or present citizenship(s). The status of belonging to a particular nation or state by origin or

naturalization. A people having common origins or traditions and often constituting a nation.

Immigration Status:

Those who reside in the United States but were born in another country that may or may not have documentation. Documentation having gone through formal immigration system of the United States government.

Heritage:

An inherited identity. Something that is passed down from preceding generations; a tradition.

Language:

Those whose first language is not English.

Mental or Physical Disability:

An individual with a disability is a person who has a physical or mental condition that substantially limits one or more major life activities. A person with a disability has a level of ability that is outside of a typical or normal realm of functioning; a person who has a history or record of such a condition; a person who is perceived by others as having such a condition; or a person who identifies as having a disability.*

*This definition was drafted from the Americans with Disabilities Act

Religion:

A system of beliefs, which often involves a code of ethics and a philosophy of life, and/or knowledge of a spiritual realm of another form of existence. Creed is inclusive of religion.

Non-Traditional Status:

Students in a partnered relationship (ie. married/partnership), and students who are defined as independent by federal standards according to federal student aid. One or more of the following is defined as "independent": 23 years of age or older, married, parent, emancipated, homeless, active in U.S. armed forces, and/or a veteran of U.S. armed forces.

Military Veterans:

Students who have served in any military branch.

SECTION 2: CUSG Proper will adopt "The University of Colorado at Boulder Student Government is dedicated to building and maintaining a population of students, faculty, administration and staff, in which diversity is integral, essential and valued. Diversity is a natural and enriching characteristic of life, which is necessary to sustain a nurturing academic environment," as the diversity policy.

SECTION 3: The Diversity Commission will reevaluate the University of Colorado Student Government's diversity policy and definition annually and submit recommendations to Legislative Council as needed.

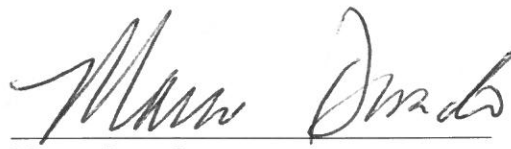
SECTION 4: This bill takes effect upon passage upon passage by the Legislative Council and upon obtaining the signatures of the Legislative Council President Pro-Tempore and at least two of the Tri-Executives, or 6 days without action by the Tri-Executives.

Vote Count

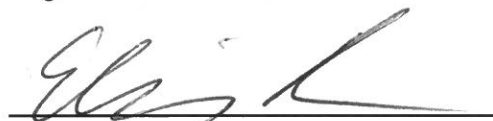
03/20/2014	Passed on 1 st reading	Acclamation
04/03/2014	Amended definition for non-traditional students	Acclamation
04/03/2014	Amended definition for military veterans	Acclamation
04/03/2014	Passed on 2 nd reading	Acclamation




Juedon Kebede
Legislative Council President



Marco Dorado
Tri-Executive



Elizabeth Roberts
Tri-Executive



Christopher Schaeffbauer
Tri-Executive