



# Student Government

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

## University of Colorado Student Government Legislative Council

Date: 24 April 2014

80 LCB 21 – Student group fundraising  
with alcohol

Sponsored by: Christopher Schaeftbauer President of Student Affairs

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## **A Bill to Prohibit Student Group Fundraising using Alcohol-focused Events**

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### **Bill History**

In recent years, student groups have started using bar crawls as a strategy for fundraising for their organization or for other causes. As groups have shown this approach to be successful, more and more groups have been adopting bar crawls or drink discount events as a way to raise money. Although these events have demonstrated success at raising funds, they have a negative impact on our campus community and can lead to overconsumption of alcohol and potential harm.

Recently, the University and the Student Organizations Finance Office (hereafter 'SOFO') have begun to ask student groups to discontinue their use of bar crawls. However, there is no written policy around this and the enforcement has been inconsistent. Some groups have been prohibited from hosting the events, while others have continued to raise money with alcohol-focused events. The necessity of a policy addressing bar crawls and other alcohol-focused events has become an urgent issue for the University of Colorado Student Government (hereafter 'CUSG') because student group governance is under the purview of CUSG and there has been inconsistent enforcement of an unwritten policy.

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# Bill Summary

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This bill seeks to prevent student groups that are associated with the University of Colorado Boulder (hereafter 'CU'), both Independent and Affiliated groups, from using alcohol-focused events, such as bar crawls, to raise funds. This bill amends 77LCB06 and the student group agreements with this policy. This bill also encourages the CU administration to create similar policies that govern staff, faculty, and non-CUSG affiliated student groups and to prohibit bar crawls from being used as a social activity or fundraising strategy.

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**Whereas**, bar crawls typically provide drink discounts and an environment where drinking is an expectation;

**Whereas**, increased marketing and visibility of alcohol and alcohol-related events affects the social norms around the overconsumption of alcohol<sup>1</sup>;

**Whereas**, drink specials have been shown to increase the consumption of alcohol and lead to greater alcohol-related harm and binge drinking rates<sup>1,2</sup>;

**Whereas**, increased availability of alcohol correlates with increased consumption<sup>3</sup> and higher rates alcohol-related harm including drunk driving<sup>4</sup> and physical violence<sup>5</sup>,

**Whereas**, student group governance falls under the purview of CUSG;

**Whereas**, CUSG is reviewing the student group support system in order to improve that system and provide greater support to groups in raising funds to achieve their mission;

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

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<sup>1</sup> Kuo M, Wechsler H, Greenberg P, Lee H. The marketing of alcohol to college students. *Am J Prev Med.* 2003;25(3):204–211.

<sup>2</sup> Toomey TL, Lenk KM, Wagenaar AC. Environmental policies to reduce college drinking: an update of research findings. *J Stud Alcohol Drugs.* 2007;68(2):208–19.

<sup>3</sup> Wagenaar A, Toomey TL, Lenk KM. Environmental influences on young adult drinking. *Alcohol Res Heal.* 2004;28(4):230–235.

<sup>4</sup> Treno AJ, Grube JW, Martin SE. Alcohol Availability as a Predictor of Youth Drinking and Driving: A Hierarchical Analysis of Survey and Archival Data. *Alcohol Clin Exp Res.* 2003;27(5):835–840.

<sup>5</sup> Livingston M, Chikritzhs T, Room R. Changing the density of alcohol outlets to reduce alcohol-related problems. *Drug Alcohol Rev.* 2007;26(5):557–66.

**Section 1:** 77LCB06, Student Group Accountability bill, shall be amended to include an additional section, Section 1.1, as follows:

“Raising funds using an alcohol-focused event shall also be considered a violation and handled according to the policies described herein. These events include, but are not limited to, bar crawls and any event that provides a discount on alcohol. Determination of whether an event consists primarily of alcohol-focused activities shall be made by SOFO. Student groups retain the right to appeal the SOFO determination to the CUSG Legislative Council.”

**Section 2:** 77LCB06 shall be amended to include an additional section, Section 1.1.1, that reads:

“For the purposes of this document, alcohol-focused fundraisers are those where alcohol sale or consumption is the primary purpose of the event and/or where consuming alcohol is incentivized by a discount or other method. Examples of alcohol-focused events include bar crawls, events with drink discounts, and sponsored happy hours.”

**Section 3:** The student group agreement for both Independent and Affiliated student groups shall be amended with a new section that reads:

“Student organizations may not fundraise for their group or any other purpose by using bar crawls or any other event that provides a discount on alcohol.”

**Section 4:** CUSG will make every effort to support student groups that have historically hosted alcohol-focused fundraisers to support their operations. This may include support in identifying alternative fundraising opportunities and in hosting alternative fund raising events.

**Section 5:** CUSG formally recommends that the University develop policies to govern staff, faculty, and non-CUSG affiliated student groups, which prevent them from hosting bar crawls for any purpose and using alcohol-focused events to raise funds.

**Section 6:** Upon passage, this bill shall be distributed to the Director of SOFO, the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs, and the Senior Assistant Vice Chancellor for Health and Wellness.


**Section 7:** This bill shall take effect upon passage by the legislative council and upon either obtaining the signature of two Tri-Executives or the lapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.

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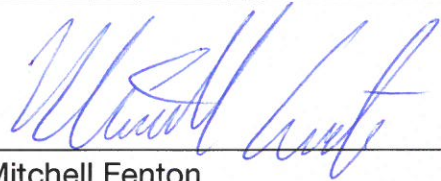
## Vote Count

04/24/2014	Amended Bill Summary	Acclamation
04/24/2014	Amended Section 5	Acclamation
04/24/2014	Amended Section 2	Acclamation
04/24/2014	Passed on 1 <sup>st</sup> reading	Acclamation
04/24/2014	Carried over to 81 <sup>st</sup> Session	Acclamation
05/01/2014	Amended the Whereas section	Acclamation
05/01/2014	Passed on 2 <sup>nd</sup> reading	Acclamation

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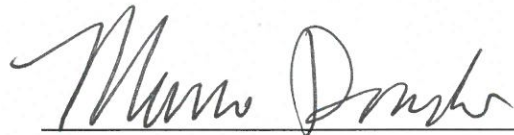
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