**Bill Status: PASSED** 



### University of Colorado Student Government Legislative Council

January 27, 2015

82 LCB 07 — Study Abroad Bill

Sponsored by:

Noha Kikhia

Legislative Council Vice President

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**Election Commissioner** 

# A Bill to Redefine Students to Include Returning Study Abroad Students

#### **Bill History**

Fall and Spring Elections for the University of Colorado at Boulder student government are responsible for electing senators, representatives, and executives that are in control of the 32 million dollar budget that CUSG controls. Therefore, these elected officials directly impact the University of Colorado student body daily through operating buildings such as the rec center and the UMC. In the past, not all study abroad students are eligible to vote in elections because they do not all pay the mandatory student fees that are required to define someone as a "student" in the eyes of the CUSG constitution. However, these study abroad students, once they return to campus and become full fee paying students again, are directly impacted by the people who were elected the previous semester. These students need to be allowed to vote while abroad as they are affected once they return.

#### **Bill Summary**

This Bill will reform the constitution to include study abroad students who will return to CU for at least one more semester as part of the CU student body while they are

abroad, which will allow them the privilege of voting in fall and spring elections. The study abroad students would be expected to vote on during the time frame allotted by the election code and be aware that that time frame is Mountain Daylight Time. This would change the CUSG constitution to add a mandatory student fee exemption, by adding a section c, for study abroad students in Article VII section 1. Contingent upon this referendum passing, as outlined in section XVI in the CUSG constitution, the election code would also change to add an exemption to section 301 of the election code that would allow study abroad students who are returning for at least one more semester to vote during election week based on the MST time zone. The intended application of this bill can be summarized with the following scenario.

Scenario 1: The bill passes by receiving more affirmative votes than negative votes and at least 2/3 of 15% of eligible votes must be positive in the Spring 2015 elections. Once passed, UComm would change the eligibility of voters to include all full time students that pay fees as well as all study abroad students.

Scenario 2: The bill fails by receiving more negative votes than affirmative votes in the Spring 2015 elections and a section C to Article VII section 1 will not be enacted. Scenario 3: The referendum question receives more affirmative votes than negative votes in the Spring 2015 elections, but does not receive the 2/3 of 15% of votes required by Article XVI of the CUSG constitution and will be placed again on the ballot in Spring 2016.

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

**Section 1:** A Referendum question shall be placed on the Spring 2015 ballot that reads Shall Students who are studying abroad and will be returning to CU Boulder for at least one additional semester be included in the definition of student in the CUSG Constitution, exempting them from the regulation that students must be "full mandatory student fee paying member(s)" for voting purposes?

**Section 2:** An affirmative vote on the referendum question created in section 1 (in accordance with the procedure stipulate in article XVI of the CUSG Constitution) shall add a subsection c to Article VII section 1.

Section 3: Section 1 of Article VII shall be amended to add

c. Enrolled Study Abroad Students who will be returning to CU for at least one additional semester are exempt from paying mandatory student fees in order to be defined as a student according to CUSG.

**Section 4:** Section 301 of the Election code shall be amended to read (changes from the current statute are in bold face

Any CUSG base fee paying member of the University of Colorado student Union shall be entitled to vote, including students as defined by the CUSG Constitution.

**Section 5:** The bill shall take effect upon final passage in Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signature of two Tri-Executives and the Legislative Council President or the lapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.

#### **Vote Count:**

3/12/2015	Amended to specify Mountain Daylight Time and 15%	Acclamation
	of voters instead of a specific number	
3/12/2015	Approved on First Reading	Acclamation
3/19/2015	Amended to say Spring 2016 instead of Fall 2015	Acclamation
3/19/2015	Approved on Second Reading	Acclamation

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