**Resolution Status: Passed on Special Order**



**University of Colorado Student Government**

**Legislative Council**

**September 24, 2015 Debate Resolution**

**Sponsored by:** Bridger Ruyle Director of Sustainability

Bea Lacombe Representative-at-Large

Weston Ballard Representative-at-Large

Natalie Coleman ENVD Co-Senator

James Zidell ENVD Co-Senator

Samantha Webster ASSG Co-Senator

Alison Gilchrist UGGS Co-Senator

Alan Izar UGGS Co-Senator

Royce Brosseau Engineer Co-Senator

Moon Yin Engineer Co-Senator

Emily Stock Business Co-Senator

Austin McCleery Representative-at-Large

Gabrielle Hawkins Representative-at-Large

Tyler Fair Representative-at-Large

Austin Rugh Representative-at-Large

Kaitlyn Bové Representative-at-Large

**Authored by**: Bridger Ruyle Director of Sustainability

Bea Lacombe Representative-at-Large

**A Resolution Regarding the RNC Presidential Debate (October 28, 2015)**

**Resolution Summary**

This resolution calls for the University of Colorado, the RNC, and CNBC to drastically increase the number of tickets available to CU students and faculty for the Republican presidential debate on October 28, 2015, in order that our campus is appropriately represented.

**Whereas,** a Republican presidential debate will be held in Coors Event Center, donated free-of-charge by the University of Colorado on October 28, 20151;

**Whereas,** a contract with the RNC and CNBC permits 50 tickets for CU students, administration, and faculty1;

**Whereas,** Coors Event Center has an official capacity of 11,0642;

**Whereas,** the University of Colorado is using this event to boost its public relations1;

**Whereas,** the two previous Republican presidential debates this year drew television audiences of 23.9 and 23.1 million, respectively3,4;

**Whereas,** regarding this event, campus administration currently inadequately represents the student voice. A *Daily Camera* article on September 18, 2015 states, “Hilliard [campus spokesman] said that CU does not feel short-changed by the ticket situation”1;

**Whereas,** due to the deeply insufficient number of student tickets for this debate, the views and opinions of CU students will go unrepresented on television to tens of millions of people worldwide;

**Whereas,** it is in the interest of CU Student Government and the University of Colorado to help expose students to a variety of educational experiences outside the classroom and give them as many opportunities as possible to participate in our country’s political process;

**Whereas,** Chancellor DiStefano is quoted saying, “We have a long history at CU-Boulder of hosting high-profile visitors who bring exciting and engaging opportunities for our students and community to hear a variety of viewpoints. We appreciate the opportunity to partner with CNBC and feel this debate will be a memorable experience for our students and the entire community,” despite only 50 university representatives being allowed entrance for a campus of over 30,000 students, faculty, and staff.

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

**Section 1:** CU students call for the University of Colorado, the RNC, and CNBC to rework the October 28, 2015 debate contract to drastically increase the number of tickets allotted to students and the community.

1. A minimum of half of the seating available should be made open to CU students and faculty.

**Section 2:** If the RNC and CNBC refuse to rework the contract, CU students call for the University of Colorado to pull its sponsorship from the event.

**Section 3:** The resolution 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. Upon passage this resolution will be distributed, not being limited to, all relevant media channels, the Office of the Chancellor, CU Regents, and the CU campus spokesperson.

**Vote Count:**

**09/24/15 Passed on Special Order13-0-1 Acclamation**

1http://www.dailycamera.com/cu-news/ci\_28839941/no-debating-it-gop-event-at-cu-boulder

2http://www.cubuffs.com/ViewArticle.dbml?ATCLID=118241

3http://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/08/business/media/republican-debate-draws-24-million-viewers.html?\_r=0

4http://money.cnn.com/2015/09/17/media/cnn-republican-debate-ratings/index.html