



THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Xst SESSION OF THE FIFTY-FOURTH SENATE

Month/ Day/ Year

BILL

Establishing the Sustainable Living in FSL Council

NOTICE: *A signature to sponsor means that you only wish for the legislation to be heard, a signature to endorse means that you support the contents and/or actions of this legislation.*

WRITTEN BY: Cate Collins, Director of Environmental Affairs for the Associated Students of Colorado State University, and member of Pi Beta Phi sorority.

COLLABORATED WITH: Jakye Nunley, Chief of Staff, ASCSU

SPONSORED BY:

ENDORSED BY: Tonie Miyamoto, Executive Director of Communications and Sustainability, Division of Student Affairs; Joseph Godshall, Director of Public Relations, ASCSU; Sofia Hiller, Deputy Director of Sustainability, ASCSU; John Henderson, Associate Dean of Student, Division of Student Affairs; Jillian Cook, Deputy Chief of Staff, ASCSU; Lindsay Sell, Director, Fraternity & Sorority Life; Lily Coughlin, Deputy Director of Marketing and Digital Media, ASCSU; Hailey Rabeth, Deputy Director of Governmental Affairs, ASCSU; Ava Wilkins, Director of Governmental Affairs, ASCSU

ABSTRACT: *This bill will establish a council that will be housed in the Environmental Affairs department and function to be a liaison between ASCSU and fraternity and sorority life at Colorado State University. I propose the creation of a council entitled "Sustainable Living in FSL" in which members of fraternities and sororities on Colorado State University's campus voluntarily participate in sustainability centered conversations and education twice monthly. Representatives from each chapter on campus, including from all five councils, will be invited to collaborate on methods to reduce waste and consumption in their chapters. Meetings of the Sustainable Living in FSL council will be held by ASCSU's Director of Environmental Affairs or Deputy Director of Sustainability.*

WHEREAS,

This council is intended to help chapters reevaluate their operations from an environmental impact perspective and meet Colorado State University and City of Fort Collins sustainability goals and values. This structure allows each chapter to introduce sustainability into their operations without interfering with other chapter happenings as "Greeks go Green" efforts have in the past. Sustainable Living in FSL is not only an excellent leadership opportunity for chapter members but also a time in which members of the FSL community can host meaningful conversations and consider their operations from a sustainable viewpoint. This council would be open invite to all chapter members and chapters may choose to nominate a liaison(s).

WHEREAS,

A sustainability initiative among fraternity and sorority members is essential in connecting the mission and values of Colorado State University and the City of Fort Collins with FSL at CSU. With over 3,500 students a part of FSL at Colorado State University, it is imperative that sustainability remain a key player in chapter operations. It is difficult and unrealistic for Colorado State University to meet many of their sustainability goals and maintain their high standing on AASHE's STARS report without the commitment of fraternity and sorority life. It is critical to introduce sustainable efforts to FSL to maintain a positive image across Colorado State University, create more leadership opportunities within the FSL community, and encourage traditionally underrepresented/minoritized students to join a chapter. Fraternity and sorority members have continually demonstrated a want and need for a formalized sustainability initiative that is centered around the values of the individual chapter. 1

WHEREAS,

Many distinguished universities across the United States have demonstrated the successful introduction of sustainability councils and campaigns for fraternity and sorority members including University of Colorado Boulder (Green Greeks) 2, Florida State University (Greeks Going Green) 3, Wake Forest University (Greeks Go Green) 4, University of Arkansas (Greeks Going Green) 5, and Georgia Southern University (Greeks Go Green) 6.

WHEREAS,

Colorado State University holds a STARS 2.2 Platinum rating, being the only institution to repeat a Platinum STARS rating four times. STARS is a transparent self-reporting framework for colleges and universities to measure their sustainability performance. Each report scores in five categories including academics, engagement, operations, planning and administration, and research. Despite this distinction, Colorado State University must continue to commit to operational sustainability across all sectors of the campus, including fraternity and sorority Life. 7

WHEREAS,

Colorado State University is celebrating a full decade in the Top 4 of doctoral institutions in the Campus Sustainability Index. Colorado State University has been recognized for number 1 in curriculum, number 2 in campus engagement, number 5 in public engagement, tied for number 7 in research and purchasing, number 8 in investment and finance, and tied for number 9 in water. These rankings only reaffirm Colorado State University's sustainability values, emphasizing the need for sustainability to be introduced into the FSL community and the potential to increase our student engagement rating.⁸

WHEREAS,

Students who are a part of fraternities and sororities on campus have demonstrated continued interest in sustainability opportunities within FSL and within the university at large. An opportunity exists to align the sustainability priorities of CSU, fraternity and sorority life, and the City of Fort Collins. FSL members interested in practicing sustainable behaviors and bettering their chapters operations deserve a space and outlet to make this work happen. Creating meaningful change in fraternity and sorority spaces requires formalized space to make the work less daunting and more accessible. This highlights a direct need for the Sustainable Living in FSL council to be housed under the Associated Students of Colorado State University in partnership with the fraternity and sorority community and Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life to provide this needed space for chapter members.

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED/ENACTED

The Associated Students of Colorado State University call for the establishment of the Sustainable Living in FSL Council with the purpose of introducing sustainability practices into chapter operations and increasing sustainability centered education in fraternity and sorority spaces. Participation within this council is entirely voluntary and at the discretion of individual chapters and their members. No formal requirement of council participation shall be enacted.

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED/ENACTED

The Associated Students of Colorado State University strongly encourage the establishment of this council to keep Colorado State University on track to meet our sustainability goals, incorporate and continue including FSL students in sustainability conversations, and promote sustainable behaviors across the student body. In addition, this council shall serve to support chapter leaders in their current missions/values while providing a resource for members to inspire change in their organizations. With a voluntary structure, the goal of this council is to not place burden on chapter members and the executive team but rather support their current mission and help center chapter operations around the stated goals of the university at large. A report of the accomplishments of the council will be forwarded to FSL council executive boards and FSL staff, frequency of reporting is at the discretion of the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life.

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED/ENACTED

The Associated Students of Colorado State University call for the Sustainable Living in FSL council to be housed under the Environmental Affairs department and overseen by the Director of Environmental Affairs or Deputy Director of Sustainability. The formal job description of the Associated Students of Colorado State University Director of Environmental Affairs shall be amended to include oversight of this council. Duty may be passed to the Deputy Director of Sustainability as determined by the Director of Environmental Affairs.

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED/ENACTED

The Sustainable Living in FSL council shall seek involvement from any students apart of a fraternity or sorority at Colorado State University. Participation and involvement in this council shall be voluntary, chapters may choose to nominate a liaison(s). This council serves as an outlet for students within the FSL community interested in sustainability to have their voices heard and find support amongst like-minded peers who also wish to seek change.

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED/ENACTED

That a copy of this legislation be forwarded to Amy Parsons, President, Colorado State University; Tony Frank, Chancellor, CSU System; Blanche Hughes, Vice President, Student Affairs; Ben Schrader, ASCSU Advisor; Jason Huitt, ASCSU Advisor; Elisa Randazzo, ASCSU Administrative Assistant; Tonie Miyamoto, Co-Chair Presidents Sustainability Commission, Executive Director of Communications and Sustainability; Grace Wright, Co-Chair Presidents Sustainability Commission, Director of Sustainability College of Business; John Henderson, Associate Dean of Students, ASCSU Environmental Affairs Advisor; Mary Liang, Assistant Director of Sustainability, Housing and Dining Services; Lindsay Sell, Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life; Natalie Padron, Associate Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life; Ahjina Hopkins, Program Coordinator Fraternity and Sorority Life

**PASSAGE AND ENACTMENT OF RESOLUTION/BILL/LEX 54XX
SESSION OF PASSAGE**

Yays – Nays – Abstentions

ASCSU SPEAKER OF THE SENATE HAYDEN TAYLOR

DATE

ASCSU PRESIDENT NICK DESALVO

DATE

RESOURCES:

Use this section to place any relevant citations and/or resources used in the producing of this legislation.

- 1: <https://fsl.colostate.edu>
- 2: <https://www.colorado.edu/center/get-involved/green-greeks>
- 3: <https://sustainablecampus.fsu.edu/greeksgoinggreen>
- 4: <https://sustainability.wfu.edu/greeks-go-green/>
- 5: <https://uagreeks.uark.edu/greekorganizations/greeks-going-green.php>
- 6: <https://www.georgiasouthern.edu/students/ifc/about/greeks-go-green/>
- 7: <https://green.colostate.edu/stars-platinum/>
- 8: <https://source.colostate.edu/csu-top-four-in-sustainable-campus-index-for-10th-straight-year/>

THAT THIS LEGISLATION SHALL BE FORWARDED TO:

Amy Parsons, President of Colorado State University
Tony Frank, Chancellor of the Colorado State University System
Blanche Hughes, Vice President for Student Affairs of Colorado State University
Ben Schrader, ASCSU Advisor
Jason Huitt, ASCSU Advisor
Elisa Randazzo, ASCSU Administrative Assistant
Tonie Miyamoto, Co-Chair Presidents Sustainability Commission, Executive Director of Communications and Sustainability
Grace Wright, (incoming) Co-Chair Presidents Sustainability Commission, Director of Sustainability for the College of Business
John Henderson, Associate Dean of Students, ASCSU Environmental Affairs Advisor

Mary Liang, Assistant Director of Sustainability Housing and Dining Services

Lindsay Sell, Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life

Natalie Padron, Associate Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life

Ahjina Hopkins, Program Coordinator Fraternity and Sorority Life

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INTRODUCTION DATE/SESSION:

ARCHIVE DATE:

COMMITTEE'S REVIEWED:

MONETARY? Y/N