



ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

BOARD OF DIRECTORS | Session 125

Date: *March 11, 2026*

Submitted by Ashwin Anand, Director of Internal Policy

BOARD BILL 4.06: An Act to Approve Placement of a Ballot Measure to amend the ASUW Constitution in the ASUW 2026 General Election

- 1) WHEREAS: The Associated Students of the University of Washington (ASUW) Constitution establishes the governing structure, powers, and responsibilities of the student government; and
- 2) WHEREAS: The ASUW Board of Directors has the authority to place constitutional amendments before the student body through a ballot measure in a general election; and
- 3) WHEREAS: On February 28, 2026, the ASUW Board of Directors held a special meeting on constitutional reform, inviting members of ASUW and the broader student body to review and discuss proposed updates to the Constitution; and
- 4) WHEREAS: During this meeting, attendees collectively discussed and agreed upon a series of amendments intended to modernize the Constitution, clarify governance procedures, and improve institutional accessibility and transparency; and
- 5) WHEREAS: These amendments included provisions to:
 - a. Require the Board of Directors to communicate and enact the opinion of the Senate;
 - b. Validate the protected Senate seats of the Latine Student Union, Office of Student Veteran Life, CIRCLE, Office of Government Relations (OGR), and the Elections Administration Committee (EAC);
 - c. Clarify the Board of Directors' authority to nullify elections only in the case of critical procedural flaws, such as technical failures or an absence of votes, replacing the previously vague standard of "irregular elections";
 - d. Replace outdated requirements for an annual "Financial Statement" with language requiring an annual report detailing all ASUW activities and expenses;
 - e. Remove outdated provisions regarding responsibilities no longer held by ASUW, including approval of student organizations;
 - f. Enshrine requirements for meeting accessibility and hybrid participation options;
 - g. Codify that Board Bylaws may only be amended with a two-thirds supermajority and Judicial oversight;
 - h. Require at least one public forum each year on the ASUW budget and financial state prior to budget approval;
 - i. Provide the diversity commissions a protected seat on the Finance and Budget Committee;
 - j. Establish that all hirings and appointments follow processes emphasizing inclusivity, transparency, and due advertisement;

- k. Clarify procedures for constitutional amendments submitted by the Senate;
 - l. Establish that all Board and Senate actions must be enacted through bills;
 - m. Simplify and clarify constitutional language to improve accessibility and readability while maintaining institutional meaning;
 - n. Allow additional Board responsibilities to be detailed through ASUW Bylaws;
 - o. Allow greater flexibility in hiring terms to improve continuity between academic years;
 - p. Provide constitutional validation to Personnel Policy, Judicial Bylaws, and other entity-specific governing documents;
 - q. Rename “delineated committees” to “constitutional committees” to reduce confusion with standing committees;
 - r. Clarify that task forces created by Board or Senate bills expire after one year;
 - s. Define ASUW entities as any body within ASUW and programs as entities that are not the Board, Senate, or commissions;
 - t. Move the Legislative Steering Committee from the Constitution to the Bylaws;
 - u. Remove Finance and Budget and Personnel Committee powers to recommend salaries due to reliance on legal minimum wage requirements;
 - v. Remove Finance and Budget and Office of Government Relations seats on the Joint Commissions Committee, streamlining reporting structures;
 - w. Standardize terminology referencing committees throughout the Constitution;
 - x. Remove references to positions or offices that no longer exist; and
 - y. Align the recall procedures for Board members with those for Senate officers; and
 - z. Correct additional grammatical and procedural changes; and
- 6) WHEREAS: These amendments collectively aim to ensure the ASUW Constitution [1] reflects current operations, improves clarity for students, and strengthens the transparency and accountability of student government; and
- 7) WHEREAS: The proposed constitutional amendments were reviewed by the ASUW Judicial Committee [3], which approved the amendments and issued a recommendation letter supporting their placement before the student body;

THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- 1) THAT: The following ballot measure be presented to the student body in the ASUW 2026 General Election:
 - a. “Do you approve the proposed 2026 ASUW Constitution, which amends minor elements of the existing Constitution to standardize language, improve readability, strengthen transparency and accountability, codify accessibility rules, clarify checks and balances on the Board of Directors, and modernize outdated powers of the Board?”; and
- 2) THAT: Upon approval by the ASUW Board of Directors, this legislation shall authorize the placement of the above ballot measure on the ASUW 2026 General Election ballot for consideration by the student body; and
- 3) THAT: Upon the approval from the Board of the Directors the ASUW President, Nandana Jaideep, shall forward this legislation to those listed below:

Nandana Jaideep | asuwpres@uw.edu | *President, Associated Students of the University of Washington;*

Reaa Dureja | asuweac@uw.edu | *Elections Administration Committee Outreach Co-Chair, Associated Students of the University of Washington;*

Tammy Pham | asuwwote@uw.edu | *Elections Administration Committee Operations Co-Chair, Associated Students of the University of Washington;*

Brendan Chang | brech@uw.edu | *Student Activities Advisor, HUB Student Activities Office;*

Christina Coop | cmcoop@uw.edu | *Assistant Director, HUB Student Activities Office;*

Alan Galvez | aagalvez@uw.edu | *Senior Advisor of the Student Activities Office.*

END.

References

[1] [Proposed ASUW Constitution](#)

[2] [Past ASUW Constitution](#)

[3] [Judicial Recommendation](#)

[4] [Current Bylaws](#)