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CERTIFICATE OF ENROLLMENT  
SENATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTIVE LD-32-1  
BOARD BILL 5.03

32<sup>nd</sup> Session  
2025-2026 Academic Year

Passed by the Board [Month  
Day, 2025] YEAS XX NAYS XX

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Under Consideration

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**Nandana Jaideep**  
**President, Board of Directors**

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CERTIFICATE

Passed by the Senate November  
4th, 2025. YEAS 83 NAYS 0.


I, Erick Jacobsen, Speaker of  
the Senate of the Associated  
Students of the University of  
Washington, do hereby certify  
that the attached  
is **LEGISLATIVE DIRECTIVE**  
**LD-32-1** as passed by the  
Senate on the date set forth.

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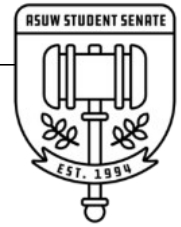
**Erick Jacobsen**  
**Speaker, Student Senate**

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**Erick Jacobsen**  
**Speaker, Student Senate**



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**LD-32-1**

A Legislative Directive to Adopt the  
ASUW Legislative Agenda

Under Consideration - 2025-2026 Academic Year

**A.S.U.W. Autumn Quarter 2025 32<sup>nd</sup> Session**

**Sponsored by** Brandon Elliott, *ASUW Director of Legislative Affairs.*

**Co-Sponsored by** MJ Mencias, *ASUW OGR Deputy Director of Legislative Affairs,* Nandana Jaideep, *ASUW President,* Kate Lawson, *ASUW Director of University Affairs,* Valeria Perez-Leyva, *ASUW Joint Commissions Committee Liaison to the Legislative Steering Committee,* Anya Saxena, *ASUW Joint Commissions Committee Liaison to the Legislative Steering Committee,* Joseph Riggio, *ASUW Senate Liaison to the Legislative Steering Committee,* Jenna Miller, *ASUW Senate Liaison to the Legislative Steering Committee,* Dania Cuevas Sandoval, *Legislative Steering Committee At-Large Representative,* Desire Santillano, *Legislative Steering Committee At-Large Representative,* Gavin Cruz, *Legislative Steering Committee At-Large Representative,* and Mahika Malladi, *Legislative Steering Committee At-Large Representative.*

Read on the floor 11/04/2025.

**BILL SUMMARY:** The Legislative Agenda is the first and most comprehensive Legislative Directive, a type of Senate Legislation which directs the ASUW Office of Government Relations to lobby on behalf of students on given issues. It is developed every year by the Legislative Steering Committee, consisting of members from OGR, the Senate, the Diversity Commissions, the Board of Directors, and the general student population. This year, there are eleven state priorities and five position statements. State priorities correspond to a bill that is being planned, and position statements are built to allow the student lobbyist to pivot and support or oppose other bills in the legislature that were unanticipated. A summary of state priorities and position statements can be found in Appendix B.

100 **Section 1: Protect and Promote Access to Quality**  
101 **Education**

102 **Subsection A. Funding University of Washington, and the**  
103 **Washington College Grant**

104 **WHEREAS** the State of Washington leads the nation in need-based  
105 financial aid programs and has made historic investments in  
106 higher education; and

107 **WHEREAS** the State funded the Washington College Grant and  
108 increased the eligibility in statute to 60% of the median family  
109 income during the 2025 legislative session; and

110 **WHEREAS** reductions in state and federal funding have contributed  
111 to departmental budget shortfalls and exacerbated the growing  
112 gap between tuition revenue and state support; and

113 **WHEREAS** the decline in funding contributed to the maximum 3.3%  
114 tuition increase by the UW Board of Regents this year; and

115 **WHEREAS** the ASUW is concerned about the shifting balance between  
116 state funding and tuition, which has changed from 61% state  
117 support and 39% tuition in 2005 to 40% state support and 60%  
118 tuition in 2025, resulting in higher costs for students and  
119 highlighting a shift in higher education funding practices over  
120 the past decade, and ultimately widening the funding gap;

121 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
122 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

123 **THAT** the ASUW supports any further increases to Washington  
124 College Grant eligibility to address rising education cost; and

125 **THAT** the ASUW urges the legislature to fund the University of  
126 Washington amidst reductions in state and federal funding;

127 **Subsection B. Workforce Education Investment Account**  
128 **(WEIA)**

129 **WHEREAS** WEIA was created in 2019 through HB 2158 as Washington's  
130 first higher education fund to support programs like the  
131 Washington College Grant and previously the Graduate Student  
132 Loan Program; and

133 **WHEREAS** WEIA is funded through the advanced computing surcharge  
134 on companies with over \$25 billion in global revenue; and

135 **WHEREAS** in the last legislative session, HB 2081 raised the  
136 surcharge cap from 1.22% to 7.5% and increased the cap from \$9  
137 million to \$75 million per business annually starting next year,  
138 which could generate billions in new revenue over the next four  
139 years; and

140 **WHEREAS** while ASUW supports this increase, we are concerned that  
141 the 2025–2027 operating budget would allow WEIA funds to  
142 supplant rather than supplement general fund allocations for  
143 higher education; and

144 **WHEREAS** in this biennium, The University of Washington would  
145 receive \$400 million in funding from WEIA instead of the general  
146 fund, and \$177.9 million in WEIA dollars would be used for  
147 employee compensation costs that used to be covered by the  
148 state; and

149 **WHEREAS** WEIA is also funding \$15 million for UW’s Center for  
150 Behavioral Health Learning, \$3.5 million for discharge services  
151 at UW Medicine and Harborview, and \$650,000 for short-term  
152 transition and support for patients deemed unfit to stand trial;  
153 and

154 **WHEREAS** ASUW recognizes Washington must uphold its commitment to  
155 students, and the future of its workforce;

156 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
157 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

158 **THAT** ASUW urges the Legislature to protect the Workforce  
159 Education Investment Account (WEIA) and ensure its usage for  
160 supporting students, and not to cover institutional costs, or  
161 appropriations to the general budget; and

162 **THAT** ASUW calls on the legislature to ensure WEIA funds are used  
163 to support students, and their access to higher education, and  
164 not to replace funding previously covered by the general budget;

165 **Subsection C. Textbook Tax Exemption and Promotion of**  
166 **Open Educational Resources**

167 **WHEREAS** ASUW recognizes the significant financial burden that  
168 textbooks and other required course materials including but not  
169 limited to digital subscriptions, lab materials, scantrons, and  
170 blue books place on students across Washington; and

171 **WHEREAS** the cost of course materials has increased over 1,000%  
172 since 1970, accounting for inflation, and 63% of college  
173 students have skipped purchasing a textbook; and

174 **WHEREAS** students receiving financial aid should never have to  
175 choose between using their aid for basic needs like food and  
176 housing or purchasing the class materials they need to succeed;

177 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
178 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

179 **THAT** the ASUW supports policies that protect student financial  
180 aid and increase the accessibility of required course materials;  
181 and

182 **THAT** the ASUW urges the Legislature to exempt required course  
183 materials from local and state sales taxes;

#### 184 **Subsection D. Research Funding**

185 **WHEREAS** the UW Office of Undergraduate Research's new pilot  
186 program, the "Undergraduate Research Collective," is donation-  
187 based and provides students \$1,600 a quarter to advance their  
188 research in preparation for the Undergraduate Research  
189 Symposium, breaking barriers by increasing accessibility to  
190 research opportunities that benefit students long-term in  
191 workforce development; and

192 **WHEREAS** according to Jason Campbell, UW's interim senior vice  
193 president for finance, planning, and budgeting, UW anticipates a  
194 26.8% decline in federal research, and a loss of \$280 million in  
195 federally sponsored research and a \$376 million overall decline  
196 in sponsored research funding, including state and private  
197 sources; and

198 **WHEREAS** the University of Washington is home to life-saving  
199 research programs and the state's only medical cyclotron, which  
200 provides particle beams for patient care and research including  
201 Neutron Therapy, Proton Therapy, Radiation Effects Testing, and  
202 Isotope Production, all of which contribute to groundbreaking  
203 cancer treatments and major medical advancements; and

204 **WHEREAS** Senator Maria Cantwell recognized UW's impact by  
205 inviting a UW cancer researcher to the 2025 State of the Union;

206 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
207 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

208 **THAT** the ASUW supports policies that strengthen UW's status as  
209 an R1 research institution by expanding paid research  
210 opportunities for students, including funding for the Office of  
211 Undergraduate Research and its new pilot program, the  
212 "Undergraduate Research Collective;" and

213 **THAT** the ASUW supports policies that strengthen UW's ability to  
214 continue this vital research and urges the Legislature to fund  
215 these valuable programs that benefit students, the state, the  
216 nation, and beyond;

## 217 **Section 2: Student Welfare and Well-Being**

### 218 **Subsection A. Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness**

219 **WHEREAS** the ASUW recognizes the "Red Zone" months of September  
220 through November with higher instances of sexual assault; and

221 **WHEREAS** the ASUW recognizes the need for accessible on-campus  
222 resources for survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence  
223 and advocates for more robust services and partnerships through  
224 UW Medicine and other campus support programs;

225 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
226 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

227 **THAT** the ASUW urges the Washington State Legislature to  
228 strengthen protections for survivors of sexual assault,  
229 harassment, and relationship violence; and

230 **THAT** the ASUW supports reviving key elements of SB 5355 and HB  
231 2242, as outlined in the proposed Sexual Assault Survivors' Bill  
232 of Rights, including access to Confidential Resource Advisor,  
233 notices of survivor rights, trauma-informed support, and  
234 consistent reporting processes across campuses; and

235 **THAT** ASUW calls for amnesty protections for survivors and  
236 witnesses who may have violated alcohol or drug policies, so  
237 fear of punishment doesn't prevent reporting; and

238 **THAT** ASUW also supports increased funding for Sexual Assault  
239 Nurse Examiners, improved campus lighting and blue light  
240 systems, and education on interpersonal relationships;

### 241 **Subsection B. Expanding Access to the Students** 242 **Experiencing Homelessness (SEH) Grant**

243 **WHEREAS** institutions like WSU use SEH grant funding to  
244 distribute individual emergency grants, and South Puget Sound  
245 Community College rents apartments to provide temporary housing  
246 and resources; and

247 **WHEREAS** UW Seattle's basic needs resource navigator is  
248 underutilized, partly because our administration has not applied  
249 for this funding, and the Council of Presidents has shown little  
250 interest; and

251 **WHEREAS** the UW Food Pantry recently experienced its highest  
252 demand ever in Fall 2024, with a 14.3% increase in usage, with  
253 over 7,500 visits; and

254 **WHEREAS** students begin using the pantry as soon as the first day  
255 of school, and the lines only grow longer throughout the quarter  
256 as student dining funds run low, demonstrating the urgent and  
257 ongoing need for expanded support; and

258 **WHEREAS** ASUW contributed \$10,000 to the Food Pantry this year;

259 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
260 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

261 **THAT** the ASUW supports policies that expand access to basic  
262 needs to combat student housing and food insecurity, including  
263 amending the Student Experiencing Homelessness Grant (SEH) to  
264 allow all institutions to apply, not just one per campus; and

265 **THAT** ASUW calls for increased funding for the UW Food Pantry and  
266 Emergency Housing Resources; and

267 **THAT** the ASUW urges the Legislature to prioritize funding for  
268 these essential services, so students have reliable access to  
269 basic needs, to further support key factors in optimal student  
270 success and wellbeing;

271 **Subsection C. Post-Undergraduate Unemployment**  
272 **Exemptions**

273 **WHEREAS** despite their contributions, recent graduates who were  
274 employed at their institution of higher education remain  
275 ineligible for unemployment benefits under RCW 50.44.040 solely  
276 due to their student status, while non-student employees in  
277 similar positions continue to receive coverage;

278 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
279 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

280 **THAT** the ASUW supports policies to remove the exemption from  
281 unemployment benefits for students employed at their  
282 institutions of higher education when those positions follow the  
283 same procedures for unemployment eligibility in comparable non-  
284 student roles at the same institutions; and

285 **THAT** the ASUW urges the legislature to amend this statute to  
286 ensure fair and equitable treatment of all workers, regardless  
287 of student status, and to provide the needed support for recent  
288 graduates transitioning to the workforce;

### 289 **Section 3: Bridging Educational Gaps and Inequities**

#### 290 **Subsection A. Supporting Students with Dependents**

291 **WHEREAS** currently, students at UW campuses have access to the  
292 Childcare Assistance Program (CAP), which provides financial  
293 support funded by the Student Activities Fee (SAF); and

294 **WHEREAS** at UW Seattle, CAP provides a maximum of \$3,150 per  
295 quarter depending on credit load and the age of the child; and

296 **WHEREAS** however, this support falls significantly short of the  
297 actual cost of childcare in Washington state; and

298 **WHEREAS** in 2023, the City of Seattle estimated that the true  
299 cost of childcare ranges from \$13,000 to \$40,000 annually  
300 depending on the child's age, and as of 2025, average childcare  
301 costs in Washington state reached \$21,000 per year;

302 **WHEREAS** without enough financial aid or early class  
303 registration, student parents often must choose between school  
304 and caring for their children;

305 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
306 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

307 **THAT** ASUW urges the Legislature to expand support for student  
308 parents by prioritizing policies that address the high cost of  
309 childcare and the unique challenges faced by students with  
310 dependents; and

311 **THAT** this includes granting students with dependents priority  
312 class registration and expanding access to programs like the  
313 Working Childcare Connections Program to include graduate  
314 students; and

315 **THAT** the ASUW supports policies that increase funding, expand  
316 access, and offer resources to better accommodate student  
317 parents while finishing their degrees;

### 318 **Subsection B. Supporting Undocumented Students**

319 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF**  
320 **WASHINGTON:**

321 **THAT** the ASUW supports full compliance with the Keep Washington  
322 Working Act and urges strong enforcement to ensure Immigration  
323 and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is not allowed on college  
324 campuses; and

325 **THAT** we commend Governor Ferguson for signing Executive Order  
326 24-09 to create an Immigration Sub Cabinet and strongly believe  
327 student representation across all public institutions is crucial  
328 to keep students informed on everchanging immigration policy;  
329 and

330 **THAT** the ASUW supports giving undocumented students access to  
331 state financial aid and paid work opportunities; and

332 **THAT** ASUW urges the legislature to develop paid work  
333 opportunities, and to fulfill Washington's promise of  
334 guaranteeing education to students regardless of documentation  
335 status, we support the expansion of state financial aid  
336 opportunities and encourage the legislature to raise awareness  
337 of such programs enshrined into law through the Real Hope Act;  
338 and

339 **THAT** ASUW supports universities establishing safe campuses for  
340 international, immigrant, and undocumented students, and data  
341 protections to prevent unlawful detainment and deportation of  
342 students, including data in discrimination or malpractice  
343 complaints submitted to the university;

### 344 **Subsection C. Supporting Financial Literacy Education** 345 **Initiatives**

346 **WHEREAS** strengthening statewide financial education aligns with  
347 Washington's commitment to economic equity and student success  
348 by preparing all residents to navigate financial  
349 responsibilities with confidence, amid growing personal finance  
350 concerns nationwide;

351 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
352 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

353 **THAT** the ASUW supports expanding financial education and  
354 literacy resources across Washington's public institutions to  
355 ensure every student graduates with the knowledge to make  
356 informed financial decisions; and

357 **THAT** we commend Senate Bill 5080 sponsored by Sen. Javier Valdez  
358 and supported by State Treasurer Mike Pellicciotti, which made  
359 financial education a statewide graduation requirement; and

360 **THAT** we urge the Legislature to require more comprehensive,  
361 culturally responsive financial literacy curriculum spanning  
362 budgeting, credit management, student loans, taxes, and long-  
363 term investing, beginning at the K-12 level and extending  
364 through public colleges and universities; and

365 **THAT** the ASUW supports partnerships between the Washington  
366 Student Achievement Council, State Treasurer's Financial  
367 Education Public-Private Partnership, and campus-based programs  
368 to develop standardized yet flexible educational modules; and

369 **THAT** we further advocate for funding to provide financial  
370 literacy workshops, digital learning tools, and peer-mentorship  
371 programs, with a specific focus on underserved, first-  
372 generation, and undocumented student populations;

#### 373 **Section 4: Technology and Sustainability**

##### 374 **Subsection A. Campus Decarbonization**

375 **WHEREAS** ASUW recognizes the global climate crisis and UW's role  
376 in the top three most emitting state agencies; and

377 **WHEREAS** multiple student initiatives, including Fossil Free UW,  
378 and WASHPIRG's Save the Orcas campaign, advocate for these  
379 efforts;

380 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
381 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

382 **THAT** the ASUW supports policies that help fund the University of  
383 Washington's energy renewal plan to decarbonize the power plant  
384 by 2040 or sooner, including allocating funds from the Climate  
385 Commitment Act; and

386 **THAT** the ASUW supports allocating \$47.5 million from the capital  
387 budget toward electric boilers and the conversion of steam to  
388 hot water loop system; and

389 **THAT** the ASUW recognizes that Washington is facing budget  
390 challenges; however, the ASUW does not support reappropriating  
391 Climate Commitment Act funding away from emissions reduction  
392 projects in order to fund other needs like filling shortfalls in  
393 the capital budget; and

394 **THAT** the ASUW urges the legislature to continue taking  
395 meaningful action toward decarbonization across Washington,  
396 preserving habitats and protecting species impacted by the  
397 climate crisis, including whales, salmon, and orcas;

### 398 **Subsection B. Artificial Intelligence Property and** 399 **Privacy Rights**

400 **WHEREAS** the ASUW recognizes that RCW 63.60.010 protects  
401 individuals' property rights in their name, voice, signature,  
402 photograph, or likeness, but does not explicitly address AI-  
403 generated images, deepfakes, or digital impersonation, leaving  
404 Washingtonians vulnerable to identity exploitation; and

405 **WHEREAS** generative AI tools can produce deep-fake videos and  
406 images, synthetic voice recordings, and social media  
407 impersonation content, posing significant risks of  
408 misinformation, and identity theft; and

409 **WHEREAS** while HB 1205 (2025) amended RCW 9A.60.010 and 9A.60.045  
410 to criminalize distribution of forged digital likenesses, it  
411 provides limited civil remedies; and

412 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
413 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

414 **THAT** the ASUW urges the legislature to update RCW 63.60.010 to  
415 explicitly include "AI-generated images," "deepfakes," and  
416 "digital impersonation" as protected elements of a person's  
417 likeness; and

418 **THAT** this update would create a clear civil cause of action  
419 allowing individuals to seek damages for unauthorized use,  
420 modernizing the statute to reflect current technology and  
421 proactively protect Washington residents, especially students in  
422 K-12 and higher education who frequently use digital platforms;  
423 and

424 **THAT** furthermore, ASUW supports protections prohibiting  
425 practices of scraping online student data, including but not  
426 limited to student-made art, social media posts, coursework, and  
427 FERPA protected information, to train Large Language Models

428 (LLMs) or Generative AI models hosted by third party companies  
429 like OpenAI, Microsoft, Meta, and Google;

## 430 **Section 5: Position Statements**

### 431 **Subsection A. Native Student Tuition Waivers**

432 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF**  
433 **WASHINGTON:**

434 **THAT** the ASUW supports full tuition waivers and increased  
435 scholarship opportunities for Native students as a step toward  
436 addressing the historical and ongoing impacts of colonization;  
437 and

438 **THAT** the ASUW believes public institutions have a responsibility  
439 to remove financial barriers and expand access to higher  
440 education for Native communities through increased institutional  
441 support; and

### 442 **Subsection B. Public Transportation**

443 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF**  
444 **WASHINGTON:**

445 **THAT** the ASUW supports policies that make public transportation  
446 more affordable, accessible, and sustainable for the student  
447 population; and

448 **THAT** this includes expanding evening transit schedules and  
449 developing larger fleets to better support student commuters.

### 450 **Subsection C. Data Privacy**

451 **WHEREAS** ASUW is concerned about contracts like the UW Libraries  
452 contract with LexisNexis, a company known to share data with ICE  
453 and DHS and call for greater protections to prevent student data  
454 from being accessed by law enforcement or immigration agencies.

455 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
456 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

457 **THAT** the ASUW supports strong student data privacy policies that  
458 limit data collection, give students control over their  
459 information, and require transparency from institutions about  
460 data use; and

### 461 **Subsection D. Asynchronous Work Opportunities**

462 **WHEREAS** these accommodations help remove barriers to academic  
463 success and support students being civically engaged;

464 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
465 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

466 **THAT** the ASUW supports policies that require asynchronous work  
467 opportunities and lecture slides to be made available to  
468 students experiencing medical or family emergencies, as well as  
469 for those participating in civic activities such as jury duty or  
470 testifying;

#### 471 **Subsection E. Shared Governance and Civic Engagement**

472 **WHEREAS** the ASUW commends the Lieutenant Governor and the UW  
473 Evans School for the Project for Civic Health Initiative, which  
474 promotes political dialogue and respectful discourse;

475 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**  
476 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

477 **THAT** the ASUW supports policies that protect civic engagement  
478 and student participation in peaceful protest for all students,  
479 and opposes RCW 28B.10.281, which uses vague language that  
480 disproportionately harms students who rely on financial aid by  
481 putting their aid at risk; and

482 **THAT** the ASUW supports striking or clarifying the statute to  
483 uphold due process and equity.

484

485 **References :**

486 *Included in the Appendix.*

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492           **APPENDIX A - PLAIN TEXT LEGISLATIVE AGENDA WITH REFERENCES**

493    Draft 2025-2026 ASUW Legislative Agenda

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495           **APPENDIX B - SUMMARY OF THE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA**

496    Summary of the 2026 ASUW Legislative Agenda