

CERTIFICATE OF ENROLLMENT

SENATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTIVE LD-32-03

BOARD BILL 5.09

32nd Session

2025-2026 Academic Year

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

Nandana Jaideep
President, Board of
Directors

Passed by the
Senate February, 3rd,
2025. YEAS 97 NAYS 1.

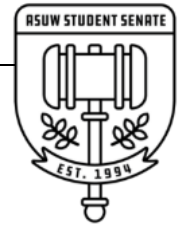
Erick Jacobsen
Speaker, Student Senate

CERTIFICATE

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

Erick Jacobsen
Speaker, Student Senate

Under Consideration



LD-32-03

A Legislative Directive Supporting Student Voices
in Democracy Through Alternative Voting Methods

Under Consideration - 2025-2026 Academic Year

A.S.U.W.

Winter Quarter 2026

32nd Session

Sponsored by Spencer Grubbs

Referred to Committee on Off-Campus Affairs.

Read on the floor XX/XX/XXXX.

BILL SUMMARY: House Bill 2210 will establish a framework allowing localities throughout the state to adopt alternative voting methods for their elections. This reform seeks to mitigate the various problems that current voting systems have and strengthen democracy, allowing Washington to become an example for other states to follow.

- 1 **WHEREAS** ASUW elections use a method of Ranked Choice Voting
2 (RCV), called Instant Runoff Voting (IRV), where the winner is
3 selected by redistributing the votes of the lowest-performing
4 candidates to voters' next preferences; this process is repeated
5 until a candidate emerges with a majority of the votes [1]; and
- 6 **WHEREAS** voters passed Proposition No. 1B in 2022, voting to
7 bring RCV to Seattle primaries in 2027, where voters will rank
8 candidates, and the top two candidates after redistribution will
9 move to the general election [2]; and
- 10 **WHEREAS** students express frustration with the current two-party
11 system and RCV seeks to expand access to democracy by offering
12 the chance for a larger field of viable candidates [3]; and
- 13 **WHEREAS** HB 2210 seeks to establish a framework that allows
14 localities within Washington to adopt alternative methods of
15 voting, including RCV [4]; and
- 16 **WHEREAS** RCV increases voter turnout by engaging voters who are
17 demobilized under the current system, especially by reducing
18 polarization and expanding the candidate pool [5]; and

19 **WHEREAS** young adults are the least civically engaged age
20 demographic, and would therefore benefit the most from electoral
21 reform that mobilizes voters [6]; and

22 **WHEREAS** University of Washington students vote at higher rates
23 than other institutions, indicating interest in civic
24 participation [7];

25 **THEREFORE, BE IT DIRECTED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**
26 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

27 **THAT** ASUW Legislative Director Brandon Elliott be authorized to
28 lobby on behalf of House Bill 2210 during his time in Olympia,
29 including testifying on it; and

30 **THAT** ASUW supports future attempts to strengthen democracy via
31 electoral reform at the local and state levels, especially
32 measures that increase voting accessibility and fairness; and

33 **THAT** this Legislative Directive be forwarded to Director of
34 Legislative Affairs Brandon Elliott upon passage.

References:

- [1] **ASUW IRV Policy** (2026). <https://vote.asuw.org/irv/>
- [2] **Seattle's Incoming RCV** (2022). <https://kingcounty.gov/en/dept/elections/ranked-choice-voting-in-seattle>
- [3] **Pew Research Center** (2022). <https://www.pewresearch.org/politics/2022/08/09/as-partisan-hostility-grows-signs-of-frustration-with-the-two-party-system/>
- [4] **HB 2210 Bill Summary** (2025). <https://app.leg.wa.gov/BillSummary/?BillNumber=2210&Year=2025&Initiative=false>
- [5] **Dowling et al., Is Ranked-Choice Voting Associated With Turnout Across Race/Ethnic Groups?** (2024). <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1111/ssqu.70025?msockid=27e4672b4b0167a4232b76304ab2660c>
- [6] **WA Voter Participation Data** (2024). <https://www.sos.wa.gov/elections/data-research/election-data-and-maps/reports-data-and-statistics>
- [7] **CELE Center, Huskies Vote, NSLVE Data** (2022). <https://cele.uw.edu/students/huskies-vote/#::~text=UW%20Voter%20Engagement%20Action%20Plan%20and%20NSLVE%20Data>