

CERTIFICATE OF ENROLLMENT

SENATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTIVE LD-32-05

BOARD BILL 5.12

32nd Session

2025-2026 Academic Year

Passed by the Board March 12,
2026 YEAS 10 NAYS 0.

Under Consideration

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 LEGISLATIVE
DIRECTIVE LD-32-05** as passed
by the Senate on the date set
forth.

Nandana Jaideep
President, Board of
Directors

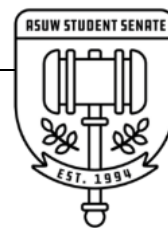
Passed by the Senate March
10th, 2026. YEAS 87 NAYS 9.



Erick Jacobsen
Speaker, Student Senate



Erick Jacobsen
Speaker, Student Senate



LD-32-05

A Legislative Directive to Establish ASUW's
Federal Legislative Agenda

Under Consideration - 2025-2026 Academic Year

A.S.U.W.

Winter Quarter 2026

32nd Session

Sponsored by Towa Nakano-Harris.

Co-Sponsored by Brandon Elliot, *ASUW OGR Director of Legislative Affairs*, Erick Jacobsen, *ASUW Senate Speaker*; Kate Lawson, *ASUW Director of University Affairs*

Read on the floor 03/03/2026.

BILL SUMMARY: This bill establishes federal legislative agenda items for the ASUW Office of Government Relations (OGR) to advocate to the federal government. These include amending SNAP eligibility to increase access for students experiencing food insecurity; updating funding policies to sustain the SNAP program over time; updating Medicaid work requirements to better promote access for the 3.5 million students who rely on Medicaid for healthcare coverage; renewing research grants and ending targeted, anti-equity investigations against colleges and universities; affirming and codifying protections for undocumented students' rights to live, work, and learn safely on college and university campuses; and protecting international students from the threat of visa revocation. These items are a priority for lobbying at the federal level because each of these items directly affects a significant portion of both the student body at the University of Washington and all students across the United States.

1 **Section 1: Funding and Expanding the Supplemental**
2 **Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**

3 **WHEREAS** the federal government has historically funded the
4 entirety of SNAP benefits, as well as 50% of each state's SNAP
5 administrative costs [1]; and

6 **WHEREAS** under Public Law 119-21, passed July 2025, the federal
7 government will only cover 25% of SNAP administrative costs from
8 the 2027 Fiscal Year onward [2]; and

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9 **WHEREAS** under the same statute, beginning in Fiscal Year 2028
10 the federal government's share of SNAP benefit costs will be
11 dependent on each state's SNAP payment error rate [2]; and

12 **WHEREAS** SNAP helps meet the basic needs of 41.7 million
13 Americans [3], including an estimated 1.1 million students [4];
14 and

15 **WHEREAS** students, unlike other prospective SNAP recipients, must
16 fall within certain exemptions to qualify for benefits [4]; and

17 **WHEREAS** only 38% of food insecure students are currently
18 eligible for SNAP [4]; and

19 **WHEREAS** access to and funding for SNAP is essential to meet the
20 basic needs of students and many other Americans,

21 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**
22 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

23 **THAT** the ASUW supports amending student eligibility for SNAP to
24 include a higher proportion of students who experience food
25 insecurity; and

26 **THAT** the ASUW encourages collaboration between the federal and
27 state governments to fund SNAP administration at a 50-50 rate;
28 and

29 **THAT** the ASUW urges the federal government to prioritize the
30 continuation of consistent, adequate funding for SNAP; and

31 **Section 2: Medicaid Eligibility and Cost-Sharing**

32 **WHEREAS** under Public Law 119-21, Medicaid recipients must work,
33 volunteer, or participate in job training for at least 80 hours
34 per month [2]; and

35 **WHEREAS** under the same statute, Medicaid recipients whose annual
36 income exceeds the federal poverty rate (\$15,960 for an
37 individual in 2026 [5]) will be subject to mandatory cost-
38 sharing beginning in 2028 [2]; and

39 **WHEREAS** after mandatory cost-sharing takes effect, states may
40 allow providers to condition care on a patient's payment of the
41 required cost-sharing [2]; and

42 **WHEREAS** 3.5 million students nationwide receive healthcare
43 coverage from Medicaid [6]; and

WHEREAS full time students at the University of Washington take on 12-18 credit-hours per week and part-time students at the University of Washington take on 6-11 credit-hours per week [7]; and

WHEREAS students who work while pursuing higher education are measurably less likely to complete their degrees [8]; and

WHEREAS a student working 80 hours per month at Seattle's minimum wage (\$21.30/hour [9]) would earn \$20,448 per year, making them subject to mandatory cost-sharing;

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

THAT the ASUW supports amending Medicaid work requirements to count in-class hours numbering 5 or less per week toward the 80 hour per month requirement; and

THAT the ASUW ultimately supports full repeal of Medicaid work requirements; and

THAT the ASUW opposes imposition of any required cost-sharing for Medicaid recipients; and

THAT the ASUW asserts that healthcare should never be contingent upon a patient's ability to pay for cost-sharing; and

Section 3: Research Funding

WHEREAS in 2025, the University of Washington saw more than \$74 million in research funding frozen [10]; and

WHEREAS the University of Washington anticipates a loss of \$280 million in federally sponsored research, constituting a 26.8% decline in federal research funding for the 2025-26 school year [11]; and

WHEREAS the University of Washington is home to lifesaving research programs, including Washington State's only cyclotron, which is used for groundbreaking programs like fast neutron therapy, radionuclide research, precision proton radiotherapy, and radiation effect testing [12]; and

WHEREAS losses in research funding have influenced several UW graduate programs' decisions to pause admissions [13]; and

WHEREAS pressure from the federal government, particularly the "Dear colleague" letter [14], has led institutions to fear

funding retaliation for their efforts to support BIPOC and other
minoritized students;

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

THAT the ASUW urges the federal government to renew all
university research grants, except in specific extreme
circumstances; and

THAT the ASUW stands by institutions unjustly targeted for
retribution and calls for the cessation of anti-diversity,
equity, and inclusion investigations; and

Section 4: International & Undocumented Students

Subsection A. Defending Undocumented Students

WHEREAS since January 20th, 2025, average daily arrests by
Immigration and Customs Enforcement have more than doubled [15];
and

WHEREAS escalating immigration enforcement has created an
environment of fear for undocumented students and their loved
ones; and

WHEREAS violence by Immigration and Customs Enforcement and
Customs and Border Patrol Agents have impacted documented and
undocumented individuals; and

WHEREAS the Washington State Legislature is currently
considering SB 5906, which would require federal law enforcement
to obtain a judicial warrant before entering areas of public
accommodation, including college campuses [16];

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

THAT the ASUW affirms its support for undocumented students'
right to live, work, and learn freely; and

THAT the ASUW calls on the federal government to institute safe
immigration enforcement practices, including but not limited to
staying off college campuses without a judicial warrant; and

Subsection B. Welcoming International Students

113 **WHEREAS** the US Department of State claims to have revoked over
114 8,000 international student visas since January 20th, 2025 [17];
115 and

116 **WHEREAS** in April 2025, visas of 13 University of Washington
117 students and 10 recent graduates were revoked without notice and
118 subsequently restored over the course of 11 days [18]; and

119 **WHEREAS** the threat of visa revocations has caused uncertainty
120 and fear for the University of Washington's 7,893 international
121 students [19], as well as their friends, families, and
122 communities; and

123 **WHEREAS** the University of Washington saw a 7% decline in
124 international student enrollment for the 2025-26 academic year
125 [19]; and

126 **WHEREAS** international students' contribution of their
127 scholarship, resources, and lived experiences enriches the
128 learning of every student;

129 **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE**
130 **UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON:**

131 **THAT** the ASUW affirms the place of international students as a
132 vital part of the UW community; and

133 **THAT** the ASUW stands by international students threatened by
134 visa revocations and urges the Department of State to only
135 consider visa revocation in extreme circumstances.

136 **THAT** this legislation be forwarded to the following persons
137 and/or organizations:

- 138 1. Nandana Jaideep, ASUW President (asuwpres@uw.edu)
- 139 2. Brandon Elliott, ASUW Director of Legislative Affairs
140 (asuwoagr@uw.edu)
- 141 3. Emily Wills, Federal Policy Advocate (emwills@uw.edu)
- 142 4. Sarah Castro, Assistant Vice President (asmcastro@uw.edu)
- 143 5. UW Federal Relations Team (federalrelations@uw.edu)

References :

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- [2] **Public Law 119-21** (2025) . <https://www.congress.gov/bill/119th-congress/house-bill/1/text>
- [3] **"SNAP assistance varied across states in fiscal year 2024"** (2025) . <https://www.ers.usda.gov/data-products/charts-of-note/chart-detail?chartId=113053>
- [4] **"Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: Eligibility and Receipt among Food Insecure College Students"** (2024) . <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-24-107074.pdf>
- [5] **"Federal Poverty Level (FPL)"** (2025) . [https://www.healthcare.gov/glossary/federal-poverty-level-fpl/#:~:text=Table_title:%20Federal%20poverty%20levels%20Table_content:%20header:%20%7C,income:%20\\$43%2C150%20%7C%202026%20income:%20\\$44%2C360%20%7C](https://www.healthcare.gov/glossary/federal-poverty-level-fpl/#:~:text=Table_title:%20Federal%20poverty%20levels%20Table_content:%20header:%20%7C,income:%20$43%2C150%20%7C%202026%20income:%20$44%2C360%20%7C)
- [6] **"Beyond Health: Medicaid Cuts Could Put College Dreams on Life Support"** (2025) <https://tcf.org/content/commentary/beyond-health-medicaid-cuts-could-put-college-dreams-on-life-support/#:~:text=Cuts%20Would%20Jeopardize%20Care%20for,1>
- [7] **"Academic Terms and Policies"** (2025) <https://advising.uw.edu/academic-planning/terms-and-policies/>
- [8] **"Earning to Learn: Working While Enrolled"** (2023) . <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/23328584221140410>
- [9] **Office of Labor Standards "Minimum Wage"** (2025) . <https://www.seattle.gov/laborstandards/ordinances/minimum-wage>
- [10] **"Mapping Federal Funding Cuts to US Colleges and Universities"** (2025) . <https://www.americanprogress.org/article/mapping-federal-funding-cuts-to-us-colleges-and-universities/>
- [11] **"UW, other WA Colleges Face Big Money Problems"** (2025) . <https://www.seattletimes.com/education-lab/uw-other-wa-colleges-face-big-money-problems/>

- [12] **Research: UW Cyclotron** (2025).
<https://www.radiationoncology.uw.edu/research/uw-medical-cyclotron-facility/>
- [13] **"SEIU 925 Holds Rally Protesting Layoffs Within the College of Arts and Sciences"** (2025).
<https://www.dailyuw.com/article/seiu-925-holds-rally-protesting-layoffs-within-the-college-of-arts-sciences-20251029>
- [14] **"Dear Colleague" Letter from the US Department of Education** (2025). <https://www.ed.gov/media/document/dear-colleague-letter-sffa-v-harvard-109506.pdf>
- [15] **"What do the numbers show about Trump's immigration enforcement record?"** (2026).
<https://www.reuters.com/world/us/trumps-early-immigration-enforcement-record-by-numbers-2026-02-24/>
- [16] **Senate Bill 5906** (2026).
<https://lawfilesexternal.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2025-26/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Bills/5906-S.E.pdf#page=1>
- [17] **"Trump Admin. Touts 8,000 Student Visas Revoked"** (2026).
<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/quick-takes/2026/01/13/trump-admin-says-it-revoked-8000-student-visas>
- [18] **UW News Blog "Statement on UW students having visas revoked without notice"** (2025).
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- [19] **UW News Release "Washington residents make up nearly three-fourths of incoming class as enrollment increases across all three UW campuses"** (2025).
<https://www.washington.edu/news/2025/10/30/washington-residents-make-up-nearly-two-thirds-of-incoming-class-as-enrollment-increases-across-all-three-uw-campuses/>

