

CERTIFICATE OF ENROLLMENT

SENATE RESOLUTION R-32-12

BOARD BILL 5.18

32nd Session

2025-2026 Academic Year

Passed by the Board May 14,
2026. YEAS XX NAYS XX.

Nandana Jaideep
President, Board of
Directors

Passed by the Senate May 12th,
2026. YEAS 67 NAYS 0.



Erick Jacobsen
Speaker, Student Senate

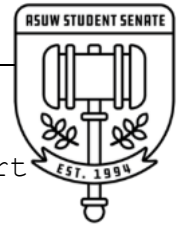
I, Erick Jacobsen, Speaker of
the Senate of the Associated
Students of the University of
Washington, do hereby certify
that the attached
is **SENATE RESOLUTION R-32-
12** as passed by the Senate on
the date set forth.



Erick Jacobsen
Speaker, Student Senate

Under Consideration

CERTIFICATE



R-32-12

A Resolution to Support the Implementation of FreeFoodAlert

Under the UW Food Pantry Food Recovery Program

Under Consideration - 2025-2026 Academic Year

A.S.U.W.

Spring Quarter 2026

32nd Session

Sponsored by Ava Wahl, *GAVEL Member and Signature Seat Senator*

Co-Sponsored by Ishaan Verma, *Institutional Climate Action Senator*, Collin Saywers, *GAVEL Intern & Oak Hall Senator*, Liam Nyska Knochen, *Terry Hall Senator*, Jothsna Sundar, *ASUW Senate Clerk*, Radcliffe H. Cushman, *YDSA Senator*, YDSA

Honorable Mentions: Angelina Durbin, *UW Food Pantry Food Recovery Coordinator*

Referred to Committee on General Affairs on April 27th, 2026.

Read on the floor 05/12/2026.

BILL SUMMARY: This resolution supports the formal implementation of FreeFoodAlert as a component of the University of Washington Food Pantry's food recovery program. FreeFoodAlert is a student-led initiative that redistributes surplus food from campus catering events to students, reducing food waste and addressing food insecurity. This resolution encourages the future ASUW Board of Directors 2026-2027 to allocate \$5,000 in recurring annual funding starting in fiscal year 2028 to sustain and scale the program.

- 1 **WHEREAS** food insecurity at the University of Washington is a
2 rising problem that imposes academic and social barriers to
3 student success; and
- 4 **WHEREAS** according to a 2019 tri-campus survey conducted by the
5 Evans School, 18.6% of surveyed students reported eating less
6 food than they felt they should because there was not enough
7 money for food in the previous 30 days [1]; and
- 8 **WHEREAS** the UW Food Pantry has experienced rapid growth over the
9 past three years, with a 112% increase in quarterly visits
10 between Autumn 2022 and Autumn 2025; and

11 **WHEREAS** in the year 2025, the food pantry provided food
12 resources to support 25,000 student, staff, and faculty
13 visits; and

14 **WHEREAS** according to the UW Food Pantry's Autumn 2025 visitor
15 survey, over 50% of surveyed visitors reported often or
16 sometimes experiencing several markers of food insecurity; and

17 **WHEREAS** the UW Food Pantry's food recovery program is managed by
18 the UW Pantry's Food Recovery Coordinator, who is responsible
19 for organizing a volunteer group that picks up excess edible
20 food from dining halls, campus cafes, and district markets; and

21 **WHEREAS** the food recovery program is only able to recover
22 prepackaged meals and produce in accordance with our operating
23 plan, and therefore cannot directly recover food from catering
24 events due to concerns about transporting previously served
25 food; and

26 **WHEREAS** the food recovery program has reached its current on-
27 campus capacity, and has resorted to off-campus partnerships to
28 help support food recovery offerings; and

29 **WHEREAS** the food recovery program recently recovered 4,600
30 pounds of food in Autumn Quarter 2025, but this still was not
31 enough to serve the Pantry's 750 weekly visitors; and

32 **WHEREAS** the ASUW Board of Directors has made food insecurity a
33 significant priority in its platforms in previous years; and

34 **WHEREAS** the 2024-2025 Board of Directors allocated \$8,000 to the
35 UW Food Pantry; and

36 **WHEREAS** the 2025-2026 Board of Directors allocated \$10,000 and
37 additional expansion support to bolster the UW Food Pantry and
38 food security on campus; and

39 **WHEREAS** the FreeFoodAlert program is an opt-in text system that
40 alerts students, faculty, staff, and other community members of
41 excess food leftover after on-campus catering events; and

42 **WHEREAS** FreeFoodAlert was first established at Johns Hopkins
43 University in 2017 and has been implemented at 23 universities
44 in the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom since its
45 creation [2][3]; and

46 **WHEREAS** FreeFoodAlert has an annual cost of \$5000 to use the
47 application [3]; and

48 **WHEREAS** there has been a continuous effort for the last two
49 years to implement the FreeFoodAlert program at the UW, and this
50 program has been approved by UW catering staff, UW Dining, UW
51 Sustainability, and UW Environmental Health & Safety; and

52 **WHEREAS** Bay Laurel, the ECC, and many departments on campus
53 including UW Sustainability and UW Recycling have expressed
54 support for this initiative;

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

57 **THAT** the ASUW Student Senate support the implementation and
58 operation of the FreeFoodAlert system under the UW Food Pantry;
59 and

60 **THAT** the Food Pantry Student Director and Food Recovery
61 Coordinator work in conjunction to oversee the program's
62 implementation and operation; and

63 **THAT** the Food Pantry Student Director and Food Recovery
64 Coordinator establish and maintain a volunteer group responsible
65 for attending events and overseeing food distribution onsite,
66 ensuring food safety protocols are followed; and

67 **THAT** the ASUW Student Senate highly recommend that the ASUW
68 Student Food Co-op transfer \$5000 of their remaining funds to
69 the UW Food Pantry to pay for the program's first year of
70 implementation in the 2026-2027 academic year; and

71 **THAT** the ASUW 2026-2027 Board of Directors allocate \$5000 yearly
72 to fund the FreeFoodAlert program's continuous operations
73 starting fiscal year 2028; and

74 **THAT** this legislation be sent to the following parties or
75 organizations by the ASUW Senate GAVEL Committee and the ASUW
76 Board of Directors:

Grace Clarke | Director of Programming, ASUW (asuwbdp@uw.edu)

Chris Jaehne | Special Assistant to the Vice President of
Student Life, Any Hungry Husky (jaehne@uw.edu)

Mark Whiteley | Purchasing and Project Specialist, UW Dining
(mwhite30@uw.edu)

Alex Silver | Environmental Public Health Specialist, UW
Environmental Health and Safety (alex47@uw.edu)

Jacob Moyer | Assistant Director, *Bay Laurel Catering*
(jmoyer@uw.edu)

River Elewski | Student Director, *UW Food Pantry*
(uwpantry@uw.edu)

Board of Directors 2026-2027 | *ASUW*

References:

- [1] **Understanding Housing and Food Insecurity Among University of Washington Students: An Internal Report** (2019).
[https://evans.uw.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/student_housing_and_food_insecurity_report_may2019.pdf?gl=1%2A1suyncy%2A_ga%2AMTU1MDEwNzYzLjE3Njc2ODA3MDY.%2A_ga_3T65WK0BM8%2AczE3NzEzMDIwNTQkbzE0JGcwJHQxNzcwMzAyMDY0JGo1MCRsMCRoMA..%2A_gcl_au%2ANDU3ODEzODQwLjE3Njc2ODA3MDY.%2A_ga_JLHM9WH4JV%2AczE3NzEzMDIwNTQkbzE0JGcwJHQxNzcwMzAyMDY0JGo1MCRsMCRoMA]
- [2] **FreeFoodAlert FAQs** (2025). [<https://freefoodalert.com/faqs>]
- [3] **FreeFoodAlert Membership** (2025).
[<https://freefoodalert.com/membership>]