



Associated Students of Western Washington University
Board of Directors

A Resolution Regarding Marriage Equality
February 2012

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the Associated Students to support the diversity of our student population; and,

WHEREAS, equality of rights for all members of the educational community need to be addressed; and,

WHEREAS, students with same-sex parents can only report the income of one parent when applying for financial aid, creating a distorted picture of their economic situation; and,

WHEREAS, marriage is a civil right that has been affirmed by the Supreme Court; and,

WHEREAS, Domestic Partnerships are an inadequate substitute for marriage equality as they express a separate but equal attitude and have been proven to cause hardship on same sex couples when their rights are challenged; and,

WHEREAS, marriage equality helps attract and retain qualified students; and,

WHEREAS, marriage is defined as a civil institution; and,

WHEREAS, marriage equality ensures that the same dignity and recognition are bestowed upon both same and opposite-sex couples by the state; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor of Washington State has introduced a bill to recognize the rights of same sex couples to marry,

BE IT RESOLVED, that one of the paramount duties of the Associated Students is to foster and support an inclusive climate on our campus for every student at Western. And furthermore, that no student should be denied the right to enjoy a campus free of hate or discrimination because of who they love or how they identify.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, That it is imperative that there be equal access to the financial aid process and financial aid dollars for all students, regardless of their sexual identity or the sexual identity of their parents.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, That the AS Board of Directors supports and encourages legislation that alleviates the specific issues listed in this resolution.

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