



Student Government
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

University of Colorado Student Government

Office of the Tri-Executives

LETTER OF SUPPORT

TO: Members of the Colorado General Assembly
FROM: Marcus Fotenos, CU Boulder Student Body President of External Affairs
 Colton Lyons, CU Boulder Student Body President of Student Affairs
 Madalena DeAndrea, CU Boulder Student Body Internal of Student Affairs
DATE: March 8th, 2017
RE: Letter of Support for Colorado SB17-062: Student Free Speech Public Higher Education Campuses

Dear Members of the Colorado General Assembly:

As the Student Body Presidents of the University of Colorado Boulder, our executive office officially supports Senate Bill 17-06 which aims to protect the Constitutional rights of students attending public institutions of higher education in the great State of Colorado.

Across the nation, universities are restricting students' ability to freely engage in expressive activities through policies that are completely antithetical to the purpose of institutions of higher education. Unfortunately, institutions in the State of Colorado have fallen victim to the national "free speech zone" epidemic. At the University of Colorado Boulder, we are hindered by the Campus Use of University Facilities (CUUF) policy, which we believe is not in compliance with the United States Constitution nor the Colorado State Constitution. Currently, the policy adopted by our university has a designated "free speech zone" which is the only location on campus where individuals are permitted to openly engage in spontaneous discussion. Also, prior to a few weeks ago, CU Boulder prevented individuals from collecting petition signatures and distributing literature throughout campus. After identifying these First Amendment violations, our executive office spearheaded and unanimously passed a CU Student Government Resolution calling for the First Amendment to "apply to every square inch of the public forum at the University of Colorado at Boulder."

To continue our fight for the students of the University of Colorado Boulder and their rights, we support Colorado General Assembly Senate Bill 17-062 to its full extent. If you have any questions please contact Marcus Fotenos at president.fotenos@colorado.edu. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Marcus Fotenos

Colton Lyons

Madalena DeAndrea

Resolution Status: PASSED



Student Government

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**

University of Colorado Student Government
Legislative Council

08 July 2016

85LCR 02 — In Support of Free Speech on Campus

Sponsored by:

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Authored by:

Marcus Fotenos

President of External Affairs

A Resolution in Support of Free Speech on Campus

Resolution History

Throughout the nation there are several discussions surrounding the topic of "free speech zones" on college campuses. As of recently, campuses are increasingly

sanctioning free-speech zones and in turn creating an environment that discourages open discussion, debate, intellectual diversity and true learning.

Unfortunately, the University of Colorado at Boulder is one of the campuses that currently limits free speech to certain zones on campus. According to the Campus Use of University Facilities¹ (CUUF) policy, free speech is limited to the Dalton Trumbo Fountain Court². There are numerous requirements that must be fulfilled in order to be in compliance with the policy and the concept constricts student's ability to voice their opinions freely.

Also, according to the existing CUUF policy, canvassing is restricted for an event scheduled in accordance with the policy or on any sidewalk bordering a street. Per the policy, "canvassing" means soliciting a donation, soliciting a signature for a petition; soliciting for an email address, phone number or other contact information; offering information about services or sales; and/or distributing any Literature, flier, coupon book, sample, promotional item, coupon or any other tangible item. This is significant because the solicitation of signatures for a petition involves protected speech.

In all, the University of Colorado at Boulder's current policies regarding free speech are violating the right of students protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

Resolution Summary

This resolution is in support of free speech throughout campus and the elimination of designated free speech zones.

Whereas, free speech zones limit students' ability to progress through open inquiry and the free exchange of ideas;

Whereas, college is a place where students can explore different ideas and perspectives;

Whereas, free speech creates and increases diversity of thought on campus;

Whereas, Virginia, Missouri, and Arizona have passed legislation outlining that institutions of higher education may not limit any area on campus where free speech may be exercised;

¹ <http://www.colorado.edu/policies/campus-use-university-facilities>

² http://www.colorado.edu/sites/default/files/attached-files/fountain_area_free_speech_zone.pdf

Whereas, in 2012 a federal judge ruled that limiting students' ability to canvass on a college campus violates the First Amendment³; and,

Whereas, free speech throughout campus benefits all students.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislative Council of the University of Colorado Boulder Student Government, **THAT:**

Section 1: The First Amendment of the Unites States Constitution should apply to every square inch of the public forum⁴ at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

Section 2: Leaders in CU Student Government will work with administration in the process of developing a solution to the concerns of students.

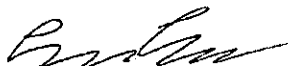
Section 3: The resolution shall take effect upon final passage in Legislative Council and upon either obtaining the signature of two Tri-Executives and the Legislative Council President or the lapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.

Vote Count:

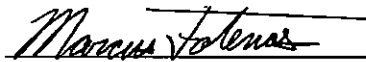
7/14/16
7/28/16

Passed on 1st Reading
Passed on 2nd Reading

Acclamation
Acclamation



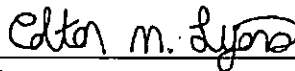
Lucas Larson
Legislative Council President



Marcus Fotenos
President of External Affairs



Madalena DeAndrea
President of Internal Affairs



Colton Lyons
President of Student Affairs

³ <https://d28htnjz2elwuj.cloudfront.net/pdfs/7d8ffca326aa1eabf802cb3f388def9c.pdf>

⁴ "Public forum", as defined by Arizona HB2615, is made up of both a traditional public forum, which is any open, outdoor area on the campus of a university or community college, and a designated public forum, which is any facility, building or part of a building that the university or community college has opened to students or student organizations for expression