

Associated Students of Cerritos College

IN THE SENATE OF THE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS

02/18/2026

Senator Chamberlain introduced the following Bill,
Senator Haque seconded the following Bill.

A BILL

Creation and Amendment of ASCC Bylaws Act

SB-2526-21

- Whereas:** The Associated Students of Cerritos College (ASCC) is governed by a Constitution and Bylaws designed to ensure accountability, fairness, and orderly governance; and
- Whereas:** The current governing documents lack clear procedural guidance regarding the initiation and prioritization of impeachment proceedings for elected Senators; and
- Whereas:** Ambiguity in impeachment and enforcement procedures may lead to inconsistent application and undermine institutional stability; and
- Whereas:** The orderly conduct of Senate meetings requires adherence to decorum and compliance with lawful directives; and
- Whereas:** The ASCC Court is vested with authority to interpret governing documents and issue lawful orders, and the absence of clearly defined consequences for willful violation of such orders creates uncertainty in enforcement; and
- Whereas:** Clarifying enforcement authority and disciplinary processes promotes transparency, due process, and separation of powers;
- Whereas:** The Senate operates under established parliamentary authority requiring clear procedures for maintaining order and decorum during official proceedings; and
- Whereas:** Clear procedural safeguards in impeachment and disciplinary matters are necessary to ensure fairness, notice, and due process for elected and appointed officers;
- Whereas:** Clearly defined agenda requirements for impeachment proceedings promote transparency and compliance with open meeting laws;
- Whereas:** Establishing limitations on repeated impeachment proceedings for the same underlying factual occurrence promotes institutional stability and prevents procedural misuse;
- Whereas:** Prospective application of governance reforms ensures fairness and protects against retroactive enforcement;
- Resolved:** The Associated Students of Cerritos College hereby creates Section 5 A. "Maintaining Order" amending Article VIII - Meetings of the Bylaws of the Associated Students of Cerritos College.

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Beginning at line 404 the following will be inserted, with numbering in the article adjusted appropriately:

Section 2

A. Maintaining Order

1. The presiding officer shall be responsible for maintaining order and decorum during meetings of their respective ASCC Branch.
 - A. A member who violates decorum or refuses to comply with lawful directives of the presiding officer may be called to order.
 - B. If a member persists in disorderly conduct after being called to order, the presiding officer may formally name the member to the Branch.
 - C. Upon being formally named by the presiding officer, consideration of disciplinary action shall immediately take precedence over all other pending business.
 - D. Upon a two-thirds vote of the Branch authorizing disciplinary action, the presiding officer may, at their discretion, impose one of the following measures for the remainder of the meeting:
 - i. **Suspension** of speaking privileges and participation rights, allowing the member to remain present but prohibiting debate, motions, or voting; or
 - ii. **Removal** from the meeting for its duration.
 - E. A member directed by vote of their Branch to comply with disciplinary measures under this section shall immediately comply. Failure to comply shall constitute willful noncompliance with a lawful directive of the ASCC and the named Officer may be subject to further disciplinary action in accordance with these Bylaws.

Resolved:

The Associated Students of Cerritos College hereby amends the Bylaws of the Associated Students of Cerritos College in Article XI Section 1.

Strike the existing Part 1:

1. Impeachment proceedings may be initiated by floor motion of the Senate and must be approved by the majority vote of the members present. This floor motion must be announced in the Senate Agenda or be vocally announced at the meeting prior to the meeting where the motion will be considered.

And insert the following:

1. Impeachment proceedings may only be initiated only through a properly agendized item stating "Impeachment Hearing – Potential Action" naming the accused officer along with a formal notice of charges. A majority vote of the Senate shall be required to proceed to an impeachment hearing. This vote will count as one attempt at impeachment. Upon conclusion of the hearing, a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Senate shall be required to remove the officer from office.

Resolved:

The Associated Students of Cerritos College hereby amends the Bylaws of the Associated Students of Cerritos College in Article XI Section 1 and creates subsection 1 (a.) and (b.).

Beginning at line 531, following Section 1, to insert:

- a. Any elected or appointed officer of the ASCC shall not face more than two attempted impeachments for previously agendized charges of claimed misconduct and violations of ASCC law; however, subsequent impeachment proceedings shall be permitted if the

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prior impeachment was overturned solely on procedural grounds or if new incidents of misconduct and or violations are brought before the Senate.

- b. If charges are not explicitly stated in the impeachment agenda item it will be rendered invalid. The Senate may take a majority vote to determine if charges were or were not explicitly stated. New Impeachment charges may not be brought forward or considered during an impeachment hearing or prior to an impeachment vote once the charges have been agendized.

Resolved:

The Associated Students of Cerritos College hereby amends the Bylaws of the Associated Students of Cerritos College in Article XI Section 1 subsection 2 (a.).

Strike Article XI, Section 2, subsections a. and b.:

2. Upon initiation of impeachment proceedings, the accused officer of the Associated Students of Cerritos College will be instructed to attend the next regularly scheduled Senate meeting where the impeachment hearing shall take place.
 - a. The non-attendance by the accused will constitute grounds for automatic impeachment by Senate vote unless the absence is excused.

And insert the following in its place:

2. Upon initiation of impeachment proceedings and a passed majority vote, the accused officer of the Associated Students of Cerritos College if not in attendance will be instructed to attend the next regularly scheduled Senate meeting. Absence in the meeting where the impeachment agenda item was first voted on will not constitute grounds for impeachment.
 - a. If the accused officer fails to appear at the scheduled impeachment hearing without having obtained an excused absence, such absence shall constitute grounds for the Senate to proceed with an impeachment vote.

Resolved:

The Associated Students of Cerritos College hereby amends the Bylaws of the Associated Students of Cerritos College in Article XI Section 1 subsection 3.

Strike Article XI, Section 1, subsections 3:

3. The impeachment hearing shall have priority over all other Senate business which business shall be postponed until the next Senate meeting.

And insert the following in its place:

3. The impeachment agenda item shall have priority over all other Senate business but following the conclusion of the impeachment hearing and or impeachment vote Senate business may continue as agendized. The impeachment agenda item shall not take precedence over a named disciplinary action vote by the presiding officer.

Resolved:

The Associated Students of Cerritos College hereby amends the Bylaws of the Associated Students of Cerritos College in Article XI by amending Section 2 subsection 2.

Strike Article XI, Section 2, subsection 2:

2. The final impeachment vote shall take place at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Senate and shall again be presided over by the same officer as the hearing of the proper temporary Senate officer (i.e., Pro Tempore). The impeachment vote shall be the first item

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of business to be considered at the meeting. The Senate at this time may schedule another hearing by vote.

And insert the following in its place:

2. The final impeachment vote shall be presided over by the same officer as the hearing of the proper temporary Senate officer (i.e., Pro Tempore). The impeachment vote shall be the first item of business to be considered at the meeting. The Senate at this time may schedule another hearing date by majority vote. Impeachment proceedings, including the hearing and vote, of the Pro Tempore will be presided over by the Vice President.

Resolved: The Associated Students of Cerritos College hereby amends the Bylaws of the Associated Students of Cerritos College in Article XI creating Section 3 “Express Grounds for Impeachment” and subsections (a-d).

Following Section 2, insert the following:

Section 3

A. Expressed Grounds for Impeachment

1. ASCC officers may face impeachment for misconduct including but not limited to:
 - a. Repeated noncompliance with the chair.
 - b. Gross and repeated disruption of official proceedings.
 - c. Breaking their official ASCC oath.
 - d. Treason, bribery and other high crimes and misdemeanors.

Resolved: The Associated Students of Cerritos College hereby amends the Bylaws of the Associated Students of Cerritos College in Article VI Section 4 creating subsection 8 and 9.

Beginning at line 354, following subsection 7, to insert:

8. Upon a finding of contempt of Court citation, the Court may impose sanctions such as but not limited to, suspension and expulsion from the ASCC consistent with due process and the governing documents.
9. The chosen imposed sanctions will be at the discretion of the ASCC Court and must be put to a majority vote. Determining the length of suspension will be at the discretion of the ASCC Court and will be passed by a majority vote of the justices.

Resolved: These aforementioned changes are not to work retroactively.

Resolved: The Senate approves the aforementioned changes to the Bylaws of the Associated Students of Cerritos College.

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Amendment History

Senator Om moved to amend the first Resolved by inserting in the first section 2A 1D to have a $\frac{2}{3}$ of vote of Senators, seconded by Senator Rubianes. No objections, motion passes.

Senator Chamberlain moved to insert in the sixth Resolved that proceedings, including the hearing and vote of the Pro Tempore, will be presided over by the Vice President in section 2, subsection 2, seconded by Senator Bennett. No objection, motion passes.

Senator Chamberlain moved to amend to strike in the seventh Resolved "The Senate shall have the authority to impeach any sitting" and "that is up to the interpretation of the Senate" in section 3, part 1d, seconded by Senator Aquino. No objection, motion passes.

Final Senate Action

Date of final vote: February 18, 2026

Senators Voting Aye: Aquino, Bennett, Biji Jacob, Castro, Chamberlain, De Las Alas, Godínez, Haque, Hernández, Lara, Mateo, Miranda, Montoya, Nieto Mejía, Om, Raya, Rodríguez, Rubianes, Ruiz, Vega, & Villar

Senators Voting Nay: Ayub & Valdez

Senators Abstaining: None

Vote Count: 22 Aye, 2 Nay, 0 Abstain

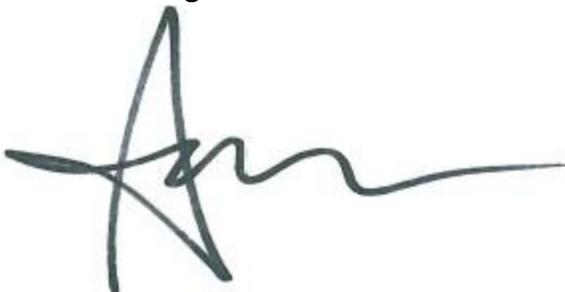
Committee Referral

Referred to Committee? No

Presidential Action

Presidential Action: APPROVE

Presidential Signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'A' followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Date: February 26, 2026