SB50-11/12: University Center Renovation Fee

Shelbi Dantic

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The Associated Students of The University of Montana
Resolution Regarding University Center Renovation Fee
April 18, 2012
Senate Bill Number: SB50-11/12
Authored by: Shelbi Dantic, ASUM Senator
Sponsored by: The University Center Board and Travis Suzuki, ASUM Senator

Whereas, students attending the Mountain Campus at The University of Montana pay a $30 per semester Renovation Fee that is used to pay the entire annual University Center (UC) Bond payment;

Whereas, the last Renovation Fee increase was approved in Fiscal Year 2003, from $22 to the current rate of $30 to bring in revenue equal to the bond payment;

Whereas, enrollment has steadily increased since Fiscal Year 2008, generating excess revenue in the Renovation Fee account, and building a positive fund balance over $120,000;

Whereas, because the UC bond has been refinanced with other University bond debt to save The University money, it is not possible to apply any excess revenue generated from the Renovation Fee to retire the bond debt early;

Whereas, the UC has facility maintenance, repair, and renovation needs, the cost of which far exceed the funding anticipated from the Student Affairs Capital Allocation process as well as the Major Component Repair and Replacement provision, as outlined in SB50-02/03 (Resolution Regarding Memo of Understanding with UC);

Whereas, the UC has identified facility improvement measures that will reduce energy consumption of the UC and repair long-standing mechanical issues that will increase the lifespan of the building while reducing indirect costs associated with poorly designed systems;

Whereas, enrollment at the Mountain Campus fluctuates from year to year, and therefore a contingency balance should be maintained;

Therefore Let It Be Resolved, The Associated Students of The University of Montana endorse a financially responsible process that allows the UC to transfer, at the end of each fiscal year, an amount equal to 95% of the balance of the Renovation Fee account, after all bond payments for that year have been made, to the University Center’s Repair and Replacement account reviewed annually by the UC Board, to be used for facility maintenance, repair, renovation, energy efficiency, and sustainability measures.
Passed by Committee: ________________________, 2012

Passed by ASUM Senate: ________________________, 2012

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Travis Suzuki,                     Jeffrey Edmunds,
Relations and Affairs Chair       Chair of the Senate