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SB15-16/17: Resolution Amending Section 9.14: “Final Budgeting” Of ASUM Fiscal Policy

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The Associated Students of the University of Montana

Resolution Amending Section 9.14: “Final Budgeting” Of ASUM Fiscal Policy

June 23rd, 2016

SB15-16/17

Authored by: Chase Greenfield, ASUM Business Manager;
Sponsored by:

Whereas, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) is bound by its Fiscal Policy;

Whereas, Section 9.14 of ASUM Fiscal Policy reads as follows:

9.14 Final Budgeting. Final Budgeting shall occur by the weekend of the seventh academic week. The Business Manager may, in consultation with the ASUM President and Vice President, schedule final budgeting for more than one (1) day.

  - The order of the categories shall be written prominently at the front of the meeting area.
  - During the Final Budgeting Session, the Business Manager shall preside over the meeting. The Accountant and the Office Manager shall be present to record transactions of the meeting.
  - The total amount in the budgeted Senate Discretionary Account shall be prominently written in plain view of the meeting area. All motions to add or subtract funds from an organization shall be made into or out of this fund. No motion shall be made by the Senate to directly move any funds from one organization's proposed budget to that of another. Two motions must be made: First, to place funds from an organization's budget into the Senate Discretionary Account, and, second, to remove funds from the Discretionary Account into the proposed budget of an organization.
  - The Sports Organization Union and the Music Union shall be funded as a category, without regard to specific member organizations.
  - An unexcused absence by a Senator from final budgeting is automatic grounds for impeachment

- 9.14.2 (NOTE: In ITEM 9.14.2 “Executives” excludes the Chair.) Amendments to the Executive Recommendation. Final Budgeting shall not be closed until the first round has been completed.
  - 1. Discussion of categories shall follow the order selected by lottery as mentioned in 9.12.
  - 2. Once a category has been opened, by a simple majority vote of the Senate, in the first round of discussion, every organization in that category will be recognized, in an order established by the Chair, for the proposal of amendments to the Executive Recommendation. The proposal of amendments shall be open to the Senators and Executives. All amendments require a simple majority to pass.
  - 3. All subsequent rotations shall follow the same procedure.
  - 4. A category shall remain open for discussion until the end of the first rotation. The motion to end discussion on a category shall be passed by a two-thirds
majority vote. Once the first round of discussion on a category has been closed, it shall not be reopened until all other categories have been closed for the first round of discussion.

- 5. Once no funds remain in the Senate Discretionary Account and all categories have been closed for the first round of discussion, Final Budgeting shall be concluded by approval of the Executive Recommendation with amendments by a two-thirds majority vote.

- 9.14.3 Proposed organizational budgets for an upcoming fiscal year shall go into effect when the Executive Recommendation is approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the Senate.

Whereas, the system outlined in Fiscal Policy for Final Budgeting is no longer the way ASUM runs our Final Budgeting sessions;

Whereas, running a Final Budgeting Session as a regular Senate Meeting could possibly lead to problems such as: a longer meeting, less time for budgeting, extraneous information/discussions, or less time-efficient release of budgeted information;

Whereas, the Spring of 2016 Budgeting Session for Fiscal Year 2017 ran for 22 hours, without an additional agenda that included regular Senate items such as: Approval of Minutes, Public Comment, President’s Report, Vice-President’s Report, New Business, Old Business, Committee Reports, and Comments;

Whereas, due to the extreme length, importance, and breadth, ASUM Final Budgeting should be treated as a special meeting session with a separate organizational structure from a regular ASUM Senate meeting;

Therefore, Let It BeResolved, that Section 9.14 be amended to read as follows:

9.14 Final Budgeting. Final Budgeting shall occur by the weekend of the seventh academic week. The Business Manager may, in consultation with the ASUM President and Vice President, schedule final budgeting for more than one (1) day.

9.14.1 Beginning Final Budgeting. Final Budgeting shall be chaired by the ASUM Business Manager. The chair shall act as the facilitator for the Final Budgeting session, and shall only vote in the case of a tie.

9.14.1.1 The order of the categories shall be written prominently at the front of the meeting area.

9.14.1.2 During the Final Budgeting Session, the ASUM Office Manager shall be present to record transactions of the meeting as a non-voting member. The ASUM Accountant may also be present as a non-voting member if deemed necessary by the ASUM Business Manager.

9.14.1.3 The total amount in the budgeted Senate Discretionary Account shall be prominently written in plain view of the meeting area. All motions to add or subtract funds from an organization shall be made into or out of this fund. No motion shall be made by the Senate to directly move any funds from one organization's proposed budget to that of another. Two motions must be made: First, to place funds from an organization's budget into the Senate Discretionary
Account, and, second, to remove funds from the Discretionary Account into the proposed budget of an organization.

9.14.1.4 The Sports Organization Union and the Music Union shall be funded as a category, without regard to specific member organizations.

9.14.1.5 An unexcused absence by a Senator from final budgeting is automatic grounds for impeachment.

9.14.2 (NOTE: In ITEM 9.14.2 "Executives" excludes the Chair.) Amendments to the Executive Recommendation. Final Budgeting shall not be closed until the first round has been completed.

9.14.2.1 Discussion of categories shall occur in the following order as mentioned in 9.12: ASUM Agencies, ASUM Unions, and then ASUM Student Groups.

9.14.2.2 Once a category has been opened, by a simple majority vote of the Senate, in the first round of discussion, every organization in that category will be recognized, in an order established by the Chair, for the proposal of amendments to the Executive Recommendation. The proposal of amendments shall be open to the Senators and Executives. All amendments require a simple majority to pass. All subsequent rotations shall follow the same procedure.

9.14.2.3 A category shall remain open for discussion until the end of the first rotation. The motion to end discussion on a category shall be passed by a two-thirds majority vote. Once the first round of discussion on a category has been closed, it shall not be reopened until all other categories have been closed for the first round of discussion.

9.14.2.4 Once no funds remain in the Senate Discretionary Account and all categories have been closed for at least the first round of discussion, Final Budgeting shall be concluded by approval of the Executive Recommendation with amendments by a two-thirds majority vote.

9.14.3 Proposed organizational budgets for an upcoming fiscal year shall go into effect when the Executive Recommendation is approved by a two-thirds majority vote of the Senate.

Passed by Committee: ______________________________, 2016
Passed by ASUM Senate: ___________________________, 2016

Chase Greenfield
Chair of Board on Budget and Finance

Elizabeth Engebretson,
Chair of the Senate