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Fall 2011

### SB19-11/12: The Wildnerness and Roadless Area Release Act, HR 1581

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1                   **The Associated Students of The University of Montana**  
2                   **Resolution Regarding The Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act, HR 1581**  
3                   **December 7, 2011**

4                   **Senate Bill Number: SB19-11/12**

5                   **Authored by: Becca Boslough, Zach Brown, Topher Williams, Neil Bennett**

6                   **Sponsored by: Chris Selph, Shelbi Dantic, Micah Nielsen, Emerald LaFortune,**  
7                   **Travis Suzuki, Asa Hohman, Matt Haefner, and Clay Springmeyer, ASUM Senators,**  
8                   **The University of Montana Wilderness Association, UM Climate Action Now,**  
9                   **Jeff Edmunds, ASUM Vice President, John Blake, Julie DeSoto**  
10                   **and Richard LeCoultre, Students-at-Large**

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12  
13                   Whereas, The Wilderness and Roadless Area Release Act (HR 1581) was introduced on April  
14                   15, 2011;

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16                   Whereas, ASUM supports civic engagement through political action such as public comment;

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18                   Whereas, there has been no public comment session provided in Montana for HR 1581;

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20                   Whereas, HR 1581 impacts over 5.5 million acres of current roadless and wilderness study  
21                   areas in Montana;

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23                   Whereas, HR 1581 overturns the 2001 and 2005 Roadless Rule;

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25                   Whereas, the 2001 Roadless Rule represents the culmination of over 600 public meetings and  
26                   1.7 million public comments, making it the most in rulemaking history. Ninety five percent  
27                   were in favor of conservation efforts;

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29                   Whereas, ASUM represents present and future users and stewards who support efficient and  
30                   effective land management policy on Montana's public lands;

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32                   Whereas, University of Montana students are all citizen owners, and co-owners of public  
33                   lands, and direct beneficiaries of resources and wildlife contained within them. HR1581  
34                   would have a direct impact on students;

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36                   Whereas, the future health of Montana's public lands depends upon the ability of active and  
37                   engaged citizens to represent their diverse interests;

38  
39                   Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that The Associated Students of The University of Montana  
40                   calls for public hearings as well as a public comment period throughout Montana on HR 1581  
41                   by February 29, 2012.

42  
43                   *Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM encourages the student body to voice their*  
44                   *opinions regarding HR 1581 through letters to be forwarded to The Montana Congressional*  
45                   *Delegation by ASUM.*

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47                   Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to the offices of  
48                   Montana's congressional delegation.

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52 Passed by Committee: \_\_\_\_\_, 2011

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54 Passed by ASUM Senate: \_\_\_\_\_, 2011

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58 \_\_\_\_\_  
59 Travis Suzuki,  
Relations and Affairs Chair

\_\_\_\_\_

Jeffery Edmunds,  
Chair of the Senate