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SB30-11/12: Campus Safe Learning Environment

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1 **The Associated Students of The University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Regarding Campus Safe Learning Environment**
3 **February 1, 2012**

4 **Senate Bill SB30-11/12**

5 **Authored by: Jenifer Gursky, ASUM President,**
6 **and Mariah Williams, ASUM Senator**

7 **Sponsored By: Brittany Salley-Rains, WRC Office Coordinator; Emilie Loran,**
8 **WRC Outreach Coordinator; Travis Suzuki,**
9 **Janyssa Overturf, and Asa Hohman, ASUM Senators**

10
11 Whereas, The University of Montana has acknowledged in recent media outlets and
12 public forums that it has a problem with sexual assault;

13
14 Whereas, sexual violence is the second most common violent crime committed on
15 college campuses today;

16
17 Whereas, sexual violence encompasses a broad range of behaviors from sexual
18 harassment to rape, including: attempted or completed voyeurism (peeping), indecent
19 exposure, knowingly transmitting sexually transmitted infections or inducing
20 incapacitation to facilitate sexual contact;

21
22 Whereas, President Engstrom has publicly outlined a three-pronged approach to this
23 issue: widespread education, improvement in University communication, and a thorough
24 review of the athletic department's response to possible sex crimes committed by UM
25 athletes;

26
27 Whereas, victims of alleged sexual assaults have reported that they feel an effort has been
28 made to shift blame from the alleged perpetrators to the victims;

29
30 Whereas, The Associated Students of The University of Montana's Women's Resource
31 Center (WRC) is a consensus-based organization dedicated to raising awareness of
32 women's and gender issues and serving and assisting women in our community;

33
34 Whereas, The Associated Students of The University of Montana (ASUM) has had
35 strategic stakeholder meetings with the President of The University of Montana, the Vice
36 President of Student Affairs, representatives from the Student Assault Resource Center
37 (SARC), representatives from the WRC, the Director of the University Center and the
38 Executive Director of the National Coalition Building Institute;

39
40 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that ASUM will strategically find ways to involve students
41 in every step, discussion, meeting and applicable committees to seek solutions with
42 community stakeholders;

43
44 Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved that ASUM will keep the issue of sexual assault at
45 The University of Montana a priority in its focus and agenda;

46

47 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM will encourage The University of
48 Montana administration both through informal discussions and through formal proposals
49 to expand the capacity of the WRC and SARC, strengthen the collaboration of the first
50 responder community and build sensitive and responsive competency-building programs
51 within The University community surrounding reporting and responding to sexual
52 assault;

53

54 Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved that ASUM recommends to the Vice President of
55 Student Affairs a proposal to expand the current capacity of the WRC and SARC both
56 through direct funding, support through equal stakeholder collaboration and potential
57 hiring of a staff advisor position.

58

59

60 Passed by Committee: _____, 2012

61

62 Passed by ASUM Senate: _____, 2012

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66 _____
67 Travis Suzuki,
Relations and Affairs Chair

Jeffrey Edmunds,
Chair of the Senate