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Jeff Edmunds

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1 **The Associated Students of The University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Regarding Higher One**
3 **April 25, 2012**

4 **Senate Bill SB53-11/12**

5 **Authored by: Jeffrey Edmunds, ASUM Vice President**

6 **Sponsored by: Jen Gursky, ASUM President; Neil Bennet, ASUM Senator; Zach**
7 **Brown, ASUM Senator; Gwendolyn Coon, ASUM Senator; Shelbi Dantic, ASUM**
8 **Senator; Sarah Dickmeyer, ASUM Senator; Cody Gordon, ASUM Senator; Dylan**
9 **Klapmeier, ASUM Senator; Emerald LaFortune, ASUM Senator; Dan Molgaard,**
10 **ASUM Senator; Micah Nielsen, ASUM Senator; Janyssa Overturf, ASUM Senator;**
11 **Zach Patten, ASUM Senator; Christopher Selph, ASUM Senator; Damara Simpson,**
12 **ASUM Senator; Clay Springmeyer, ASUM Senator; Travis Suzuki, ASUM Senator;**
13 **Topher Williams, ASUM Senator; and Mariah Williams, ASUM Senator.**

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16 Whereas, The University of Montana entered into a Services Agreement with Higher One
17 Inc. on May 25, 2010;

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19 Whereas, Higher One agreed to offer Demand Deposit Accounts (DDA) to all UM
20 Students and to use these accounts for the disbursement of financial aid credit along with
21 any other “Institutional Disbursements”;

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23 Whereas, UM students cannot opt to receive a paper check for the financial aid refund
24 since June 1st, 2011;

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26 Whereas, students from The University of Montana can be adversely affected by a fee
27 structure that they do not fully understand;

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29 Whereas, there are two methods of withdrawing funds from a Higher One account that do
30 not charge students for a fee;

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32 Whereas, using the Higher One Card for debit transactions triggers a 50 cent fee and
33 several methods available for withdrawing money from a Higher One account require
34 paying fees as high as 25 dollars;

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36 Whereas, many students have publicly and privately expressed concerns regarding the
37 availability of information regarding fees associated with the Higher One accounts;

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39 Whereas, ASUM recognizes the financial benefits to The University of Montana
40 accompanying the Higher One contract, however, ASUM would have desired additional
41 consultation with the student body;

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43 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that Associated Students of The University of Montana
44 (ASUM) requests the Administration of the University of Montana and Higher One Inc.,
45 explore additional measures that will reduce the financial effect of the Services
46 Agreement on UM students;

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Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM requests that UM Business Services works with ASUM and the student body on any future decisions that may involve student refund distributions;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that the ASUM Senate directs the ASUM President to contact the involved parties to discuss the students' concerns about the Services Agreement and discuss the rationale for not including ASUM on the discussions from the beginning to the signing of the contract with Higher One, Inc.

Passed by Committee: _____, 2012

Passed by ASUM Senate: _____, 2012

Travis Suzuki,
Relations and Affairs Chair

Jeffrey Edmunds,
Chair of the Senate