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SB07-10/11: MontPIRG Governance

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The Associated Students of The University of Montana

Resolution Regarding MontPIRG Governance

December 8, 2010

Senate Bill SB7-10/11

Authored by: Jenifer Gursky, ASUM Senator and Luke Sims, ASUM Senator

Sponsored by: Travis Suzuki, ASUM Senator and Trent Hanson, ASUM Business Manager

Whereas the non-profit MontPIRG is a Public Interest Research Group chapter that currently operates at The University of Montana;

Whereas the MontPIRG University of Montana chapter has neglected to retain an Executive Director per both MontPIRG By-Laws and MontPIRG Student Board of Directors’ Manual, therefore leaving a student funded non-profit without professional guidance;

Whereas the ASUM Business Manager has asked for financial documents, including line-item expenditures, and has yet to receive such documents;

Whereas the MontPIRG Student Board of Directors has accepted six student volunteer board resignations, one staff member resignation, and one staff member removal, leaving the organization unstable with the student leadership it espouses both requires and advertises. It consistently sits below quorum, and presents a lack of student decision making capabilities and opportunities;

Whereas the MontPIRG Student Board of Directors’ Manual in Section A, Article 1, subpoint b requires “a student group Board consisting of four executive positions and three other Board members recognized as an official ASUM student group” however, the current MontPIRG staff and student leadership refuse to become recognized as a student group;

Whereas it has become apparent the governing body of students that oversee the student fees collected, has become incapacitated and illegitimate;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that the Associated Students of the University Montana (ASUM) calls for stronger oversight from the student elected governing body, ASUM.

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM demands a weekly verbal and written committee report from MontPIRG which shall include a financial report alongside a presentation of board decisions, to presented at ASUM senate meetings.

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM calls for comprehensive reporting standards and transparency, including collaborative strategic measures, with ASUM, in future campaign work, as it pertains to the mandatory student fee.
Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM will call a confidence vote upon the organization MontPIRG annually, the first being April 20th, 2011.

Passed by Committee: ____________________________, 2010

Passed by ASUM Senate: ____________________________, 2010

________________________________  __________________________________
Travis Suzuki, Amanda Stovall,  
Relations and Affairs Chair  Chair of the Senate