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SB11-10/11: Higher One

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1 **The Associated Students of The University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Regarding Higher One**
3 **February 2, 2011**
4 **Senate Bill SB11-10/11**
5 **Authored by: Patrick Rhea, ASUM Senator**
6 **Travis Suzuki, ASUM Senator**
7 **Trent Hanson, ASUM Business Manager**
8 **Sponsored by: Ashleen Williams, ASUM President**
9

10
11 Whereas The University of Montana entered into a Services Agreement with Higher One,
12 Inc. on ~~January 30~~ *May 25, 2010*;

13
14 Whereas Higher One agrees to offer Demand Deposit Accounts (DDA) to all UM
15 Students and to use these accounts for the disbursement of financial aid credit along with
16 any other “Institutional Disbursements”;

17
18 Whereas UM students will no longer be able to opt to receive a paper check for the
19 financial aid refund after June 1st, 2011;

20
21 Whereas students from the University of Montana can be adversely affected by a fee
22 structure that they do not fully understand;

23
24 *Whereas there are two methods of withdrawing funds from a Higher One account that do*
25 *not charge students for a fee;*

26
27 Whereas using the Higher One Card for debit transactions triggers a \$0.50 fee and several
28 methods available for withdrawing money from a Higher One account require paying
29 fees as high as \$25;

30
31 Whereas many students have publicly and privately expressed concerns regarding the
32 availability of information regarding fees associated with the Higher One accounts;

33
34 Whereas ASUM recognizes the financial benefits to the University of Montana
35 accompanying the Higher One contract, however, ASUM would have desired additional
36 consultation with the student body;

37
38 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that Associated Students of the University of Montana
39 (ASUM) request the Administration of the University of Montana and Higher One, Inc.,
40 explore additional measures that will reduce the financial effect of the Services
41 Agreement on UM students;

42
43 Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM requests that UM Business Services works with
44 ASUM and the student body on any future decisions that may involve student refund
45 distributions;

46

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

51

52

53 Passed by ASUM Senate with unanimous consent as amended February 2, 2011