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Emily May

Kip Barhaugh

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1 **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Regarding Tobacco-Free UM Policy Proposal**
3 **October 7, 2009**

4 **Senate Bill Number SB7-09/10**

5 **Authored by: Emily May, ASUM Vice President & Kip Barhaugh, Senator**

6 **Sponsored by: Matt Fennell, ASUM President**

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8 Whereas, the prevalence of smoking has decreased substantially among the general population but risen
9 among college students, with 28% of UM students reporting use of tobacco products at least one a month;

10 Whereas, over 90% of University of Montana students think UM should address tobacco use on campus;

11 Whereas, the American College Health Association has strongly recommended restricting smoking areas
12 to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke;

13 Whereas, 76% of UM students report being exposed the secondhand smoke on campus and campus is the
14 number one location students report being exposed;

15 Whereas, 83% of UM students value current smoke-free areas on campus, but only 21% feel those areas
16 are truly smoke-free;

17 Whereas, there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke;

18 Whereas, section three of the Montana constitution identifies a clean and healthful environment as an
19 inalienable right;

20 Whereas, as of July 2009, there are at least 305 smoke-free campuses nationwide and 172 tobacco-free
21 campuses;

22 Whereas, as of July 2010 Montana Tech, an affiliate of UM, will be tobacco-free;

23 Whereas, a smoke-free campus plan only address the health of others and unfairly differentiates between
24 the dangers of smoking tobacco and smoke-free tobacco;

25 Whereas, the proposed Tobacco-Free UM plan addresses the health risks posed by tobacco use to users
26 and non-users alike;

27 Whereas, the proposed Tobacco-Free UM plan addresses the cultural need for tobacco use among certain
28 populations and makes allowances for the use of non-commercial tobacco;

29 Whereas, the University of Montana receives funding to address tobacco use among college students,
30 focusing on prevention of initiation, reducing exposure to secondhand smoke, and promotion of cessation;

31 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that ASUM supports the action plan proposed by the Tobacco Task Force
32 for a tobacco-free UM;

33 Let It Be Further Resolved that a copy of this resolution and letter of support for the Tobacco-Free UM
34 Policy Proposal be sent to the University of Montana Administration.

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36 Passed by Committee: _____, 2009

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38 Passed by ASUM Senate: _____, 2009

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41 _____

42 Andrew Dusek,

EmilyMay,

43 Relations and Affairs Chair

Chair of the Senate

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