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Fennell, Matthew, "SB60-08/09: Arabic Minor" (2009). *Senate Resolutions, 2007-Present*. 326.
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The Associated Students of The University of Montana
Resolution Regarding Arabic Minor
April 27, 2009
Senate Bill SB60-08/09
Authored by: Senator Matthew Fennell
Sponsored by: Senator Emily May, Senator John Wilke

Whereas, The University of Montana Department of Modern and Classical Language and Literature's Arabic Language program has seen interest and enrollment consistently rise;

Whereas, the Arabic Language program has seen so much growth that first year levels were incorporated into two sections;

Whereas, The University of Montana's Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee (ASCRC) approved a proposal for a Central and Southwest Asian studies Major involving two years of a second-language study in a critical language;

Whereas, Arabic Language is one of the United States Department of State's critical languages;

Whereas, of over 150 letters from students sent to ASCRC in support of the Central and Southwest Asian Studies Major, many requested an Arabic Minor;

Whereas, over 400 student signatures were collected on a petition in support of an Arabic Minor;

Whereas, the Arabic Language is one of the most marketable languages in the world;

Whereas, students at The University of Montana would benefit from the knowledge and potential opportunities for employment that Arabic Language Studies provide;

Whereas, an Arabic Language Studies minor fulfills The University of Montana's mission statement and encourages diversity;

Whereas, the Arabic Language program at The University of Montana offers 33 credit hours of instruction, which is traditionally enough for a language studies minor;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that the Associated Students of The University of Montana (ASUM) encourages the formation of an Arabic Language Studies Minor at The University of Montana.

Let It Be Further Resolved that the ASUM encourages the College of Arts and Sciences, the Academic Standards and Curriculum Review Committee, the Offices of The Provost and The President of The University of Montana, and the Montana State Board of Regents to investigate and support the formation of an Arabic Language Studies Minor to be incorporated into the Department of Modern and Classical Languages.

Let It Further Be Resolved that copies of this resolution be distributed to all necessary parties.

Passed by Committee: _____, 2009

Passed by Senate: _____, 2009

Andrew Dusek,
Relations and Affairs Chair

Siri Smillie,
Chair of the Senate

