Fall 2014

SB036-14/15: Spirit Animals

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The Associated Students of the University of Montana
Resolution Regarding “Spirit Animal” Question
October 15, 2014
SB036-14/15
Authored by: Asa Hohman, ASUM President
Sponsored by: Sean McQuillan, ASUM Vice President

Whereas, the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) represents all students of the University of Montana;

Whereas, ASUM is obligated to make all students feel welcome and safe at any ASUM meeting or committee;

Whereas, asking senators and guests what their “spirit animal” is has been carried on from year to year by certain members of senate;

Whereas, the topic of “spirit animals” can be seen as cultural appropriation;

Whereas, several students expressed that the topic of “spirit animals” in a non-spiritual setting is offensive to them;

Whereas, the question of “spirit animals” adds no substance to ASUM meetings and serves no legitimate purpose;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that ASUM will no longer ask the question of “spirit animals” during ASUM meetings.

Passed by Committee:

Passed by ASUM Senate: _________________________, 2014

_________________________   _________________________
Sarah Smith,          Sean McQuillan,
Relations and Affairs Chair    Chair of the Senate