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SB81-14/15: Ballot Referenda Regarding Rafter 360 Pilot Program

Ryan Hazen
Betsy Story

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The Associated Students of the University of Montana
Ballot Referenda Regarding Rafter 360 Pilot Program
April 8, 2015
SB81-14/15
Authored by: Ryan Hazen, ASUM Business Manager; Betsy Story, ASUM Senator
Sponsored by:

Whereas, the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) represents the University of Montana (UM) student body;

Whereas, throughout the year ASUM has looked at a proposal that aims to make textbooks more affordable;

Whereas, this would be a fee increase;

Whereas, ASUM is required to put fee increases to a student vote before ASUM can support said fee;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, the following language be placed on the 2015 ASUM ballot:

“There is a proposal brought before ASUM to combat rising costs of textbook. The proposal would entail the following:

1) To contract with Rafter, Inc. a total value of $21 per qualified undergraduate student per credit hour to cover the cost of textbooks and qualified materials, plus software and services to implement the program and would have a flat rate of $252 for every incoming freshman taking between 12 and 21 credits per semester; for incoming freshmen taking between 1 and 11 credits, the fee would be $21 per credit; for freshmen taking above 21 credits it would be an additional $21 per credit;

2) Students would be provided with textbooks and coursework materials at the beginning of each semester and return them at the semester’s end. A liability fee would be implemented that would cost $1 per credit for students taking between 1 and 11 credits, $12 for students taking between 12 and 21 credits, and $12 plus an additional $1 for each credit over 21 credits;

3) If passed, the pilot program would be implemented towards incoming freshman for a two year period. UM would then have the option to continue or to discontinue the contract with Rafter Inc. after this two year period.”

__ Yes, I support implementing the proposed pilot program by Rafter Inc.
__ No, I do not support implementing the proposed pilot program by Rafter Inc.
Passed by Committee:

Passed by ASUM Senate: ______________________, 2015

__________________________  ______________________
Ryan Hazen,                         Sean McQuillan,
ASUM Business Manager              Chair of the Senate