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SB88-14/15: Resolution to Support Old HWY 93 Pedestrian Bridge

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**The Associated Students of the University of Montana
Resolution to Support Old HWY93 Pedestrian Bridge**

April 15, 2015

SB88-14/15

Authored by: Sarah Smith, ASUM Senator;

Sponsored by:

Whereas, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) acts as the voice of the University of Montana (UM) students;

Whereas, ASUM represents more than 14,000 UM students;

Whereas, UM student are part of the community of the City of Missoula (MSLA);

Whereas, UM students contribute millions of dollars to MSLA's economy annually;

Whereas, MSLA's world-renowned outdoor recreation attracts many students to UM;

Whereas, UM students utilize MSLA's amenities, including its pedestrian and bicycling infrastructure;

Whereas, the City of Missoula and Missoula County are constructing the Missoula to Lolo Trail, a shared-use path from the southern terminus of the Bitterroot Branch Trail to Lolo;

Whereas, the Missoula to Lolo Trail will connect downtown Missoula to Hamilton via a continuous shared-use path;

Whereas, MSLA is considering the construction of a pedestrian bridge over Reserve Street to safely connect the shared-use path to the community;

Whereas, UM's Bitterroot College is located in Hamilton, 54 miles from UM Mountain Campus in Missoula;

Whereas, Bitterroot College students conduct student business at UM Mountain Campus;

Whereas, linking MSLA to the Bitterroot valley via a shared-use path would better connect Bitterroot College to the UM Mountain Campus

Whereas, in excess of 25% of UM students commute by bike and UM has a strong cycling culture;

Whereas, UM offers courses, including *Cycle the Rockies: Energy and Climate Change in Montana*, that introduce students to long-distance bicycle touring;

46 Whereas, creating a safe path of travel would be advantageous to UM students for
47 commuting and recreational purposes.

48
49 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that ASUM supports the construction of a pedestrian
50 bridge over Reserve Street linking the Missoula to Lolo Trail to the Bitterroot Branch
51 Trail;

52
53 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to; John
54 Engen, Mayor of the City of Missoula; Marilyn Marler, Missoula City Council President;
55 the individual Aldermen and Alderwomen of Missoula City Council; Royce Engstrom,
56 University of Montana President; Ellen Buchanan, Director of the Missoula
57 Redevelopment Agency.

58
59 Passed by Committee: _____, 2015

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61 Passed by ASUM Senate: _____, 2015

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63 _____
64 Sarah Smith,
65 Relations & Affairs Chair

Sean McQuillan,
Chair of the Senate