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SB21-16/17: Resolution Regarding ASUM Legislative Priorities

Matt Quist

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1 **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Regarding ASUM Legislative Priorities**
3 **September 21st, 2016**
4 **SB21-16/17**

5 **Authored by: Matt Quist, Chair of Student Political Action Committee**
6 **Sponsored by: Sam Forstag, ASUM President**
7

8 Whereas, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) represents the interests
9 of 12,000 students;

10
11 Whereas, ASUM advocates on behalf of the health, wellbeing, and success of the students of the
12 University of Montana;

13
14 Whereas, The duties and assistance necessary for the success of the students of the University of
15 Montana have broadened in recent years with the addition of mandates such as Equal
16 Opportunity, Title IX, ADA requirements and further services in areas of mental health,
17 veteran’s services, and increased academic support for students;

18
19 Whereas, Access to a quality education is important to the success, growth and future for
20 students of the University of Montana;

21
22 Whereas, ASUM creates and establishes a set of legislative priorities every other year prior to the
23 Montana legislative session;

24
25 Whereas, Lack of financial commitment to higher education makes universities more dependent
26 on enrollment and does not aid the University of Montana in providing the greatest quality of
27 education possible;

28
29 Whereas, an increased commitment to higher education from our state would enable the
30 University of Montana to provide quality functions and services that a public university needs to
31 properly serve its students;

32
33 Therefore, Let it Be Resolved, the students of the University of Montana call upon our
34 representatives in the Montana Legislature to make a firm, definite commitment to the well-
35 being of higher education in Montana by increasing state appropriations in the General Fund
36 Appropriations act for the Montana University System (MUS);

37
38 Therefore, Let it Further Be Resolved, that the students of the University of Montana call upon
39 the Montana Legislature to increase General Fund appropriations to the Montana University
40 System (MUS) to at least half (50%) of the MUS Unrestricted Funds costs;

41
42 Therefore, Let it Further Be Resolved, the Associated Students of the University of Montana
43 (ASUM) calls upon Montana legislators to fully fund the MUS Long-Range Building Program
44 so as to ensure that state buildings on university campuses are safe, accessible, and available for
45 use;

46

47 Therefore, Let it Further Be Resolved, that in circumstances of extreme time constraint, the
48 ASUM Lobbyist shall first contact the ASUM President to achieve clarity on any legislative
49 questions that are not explicitly laid out in the Senate’s legislative priorities, moving down that
50 list if the previous individual is not available.

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52 Therefore, Let it Further Be Resolved, ASUM authorizes the ASUM President, ASUM Student
53 Political Action Director, and ASUM Lobbyist to advocate on behalf of the students of the
54 University of Montana;

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56 Therefore, Let it Further Be Resolved, The priorities set forth herein shall serve as the
57 Official legislative positions of ASUM;

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59 Passed by Committee: _____ October 4th _____, 2016

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61
62 Passed by ASUM Senate: _____, 2016

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64
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66 _____
67 Matt Quist,
Chair, Student Political Action Committee

65
66 _____
67 Elizabeth Engebretson,
Chair, ASUM Senate