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### SB59-16/17: Resolution Regarding the University of Montana's Mental Health Strategy

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Chase Greenfield

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1                                   **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**  
2                                   **Resolution Regarding the University of Montana’s Mental Health Strategy**  
3                                   **January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

4                                   **SB59-16/17**

5                                   **Authored by: Jill Farnsworth, Student-At-Large; Chase Greenfield, ASUM Business**  
6                                   **Manager;**

7                                   **Sponsored by:**

8  
9                                   Whereas, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) is the representative  
10                                   body of the students of the University of Montana (UM);

11  
12                                   Whereas, UM Students are currently limited to eight (8) appointments with a counselor at the  
13                                   Curry Health Center (CHC) and any additional appointments must be made with an external  
14                                   counselor off-campus;

15  
16                                   Whereas, an analysis conducted by the Center for Collegiate Mental Health<sup>1</sup> shows that students’  
17                                   self-reported distress levels for depression and anxiety have continued to increase over the past  
18                                   six years;

19  
20                                   Whereas, the total number of scheduled service hours have increased by 28% over the past six  
21                                   years according to the same report;

22  
23                                   Whereas, the University of Montana Executive Summary regarding the American College Health  
24                                   Association National College Health Assessment II (ACHA-NCHA II) national research survey  
25                                   for Spring 2016<sup>2</sup> showed that (n = 1,037) in the last year 21.3% and 18.4% of students were  
26                                   diagnosed or treated by a professional for anxiety or depression, respectively;

27  
28                                   Whereas, according to the same report 63.6% of students reported feeling very sad, 61% felt  
29                                   overwhelming anxiety, and 36% felt so depressed that it was difficult to function at least once in  
30                                   the last 12 months<sup>2</sup>;

31  
32                                   Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that the Associated Students of the University of Montana  
33                                   (ASUM) supports the expansion of mental health resources on the University of Montana (UM)  
34                                   campus;

35  
36                                   Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved, that ASUM urges the Curry Health Center to continue  
37                                   prioritizing mental health resources when constructing a budget for the upcoming Fiscal Year 18;

38  
39                                   Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved, that ASUM urges the Curry Health Center to continue to  
40                                   open up unfilled “crisis hours” to walk-in students and optimizing crisis to walk-in hour ratios,  
41                                   so that existing resources are utilized most efficiently;

42  
43                                   Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved, that ASUM encourages the Curry Health Center to  
44                                   continue collaborating with ASUM to survey students about mental health resources on the  
45                                   University of Montana campus;

46

47 Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved, that ASUM urges the Curry Health Center to consider  
48 expanding group counseling and health coaching options at the University of Montana;  
49

50 Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to: Mike Frost,  
51 Counseling Director at the Curry Health Center; Rick Curtis, Director of the Curry Health  
52 Center; Tom Crady, Vice-President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management; Michelle  
53 Jensen, Budget Director for Student Affairs; Mike Reid, Vice President of Administration and  
54 Finance; and Beckie Christiaens, Associate Vice President of Administration and Finance.  
55

56 Passed by Committee: \_\_\_\_\_, 2017

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58 Passed by ASUM Senate: \_\_\_\_\_, 2017  
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63 \_\_\_\_\_  
64 Connor Fitzpatrick  
65 Chair of Relations & Affairs

\_\_\_\_\_

Elizabeth Engebretson  
Chair of the Senate

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<sup>1</sup> CCMH; 2016- [https://sites.psu.edu/ccmh/files/2017/01/2016-Annual-Report-FINAL\\_2016\\_01\\_09-1gc2hj6.pdf](https://sites.psu.edu/ccmh/files/2017/01/2016-Annual-Report-FINAL_2016_01_09-1gc2hj6.pdf)

<sup>2</sup>University of Montana 2016 Executive Summary for the American College Health Association National College Health Assessment II (ACHA-NCHA II) National Research Survey <https://www.umt.edu/curry-health-center/Docs-General/2016%20NCHA%20Correct%20PDF.pdf>