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## SB19-18/19: Resolution Regarding Primary Elections

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1                                   **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**  
2                                   **Resolution Regarding Primary Elections**  
3                                   **November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018**  
4                                   **SB19-18/19**

5                                   **Authored by: Thomas F. Hiatt, ASUM Senator;**  
6                                   **Sponsored by: Marti A. Liechty, ASUM Senator;**  
7

8       Whereas, In past years Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) has had  
9       discretion in deciding whether or not a primary election should be held;

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11       Whereas, This has caused confusion for candidates in planning their campaigns, issues with  
12       ASUM advertising the election to the students, and trouble in determining how reimbursements  
13       shall be made if candidates have already made campaign materials only advertising the date of  
14       the general election before the ASUM Senate decides there should be a primary;

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16       Whereas, Restricting the number of Senate candidates is not as pertinent to the outcome of the  
17       election as it is for Executive races;

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19       Whereas, Current ASUM bylaws under Article V Section 4 reads:

20               *3. A primary election shall be held for each Executive position having more than two (2)*  
21               *candidates. If a primary election is held, the two (2) candidates for each position with the*  
22               *highest number of primary votes will enter the general election. If only one Executive*  
23               *position has enough candidates running to warrant a primary election, the primary*  
24               *election may be omitted if approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the ASUM*  
25               *Senate.*

26               *4. The ballots for a primary election will consist of the names of the candidates for the*  
27               *two (2) officer races consisting of more than two (2) candidates or teams of candidates.*

28               *5. A primary election shall be held for Senate candidates if there are over fifty-two (52)*  
29               *individuals seeking office.*

30               *6. The ballots for the general elections shall consist of no more than two (2) Executives*  
31               *or Executive teams for each executive position and no more than fifty-two (52) Senate*  
32               *candidates with positions for write-in candidates (with the exception of a tie vote in the*  
33               *primary as per section 5.E of Elections Bylaws). In the event that the primary is waived,*  
34               *the ballots for the general elections shall allow for more than two (2) Executives or*  
35               *Executive teams for each executive position and/or fifty-two (52) Senate candidates to*  
36               *appear on the ballot.;*

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38       Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That Article V Section 4 be amended to read as follows:

39               *3. A primary election shall **only** be held for each Executive position having more than*  
40               ***three (3)** candidates. If a primary election is held, the two (2) candidates for each*  
41               *position with the highest number of primary votes will enter the general election.*

42               *4. The ballots for the primary election shall consist of the names of the candidates for the*  
43               *Executive races consisting of more than **three (3)** candidates or teams of candidates.*

44               *5. The ballots for the general elections shall consist of no more than **three (3)** Executives*  
45               *or Executive teams for each executive position and **all of the** Senate candidates with*

46 *positions for write-in candidates (with the exception of a tie vote in the primary as per*  
47 *section 5.E of Elections Bylaws).;*

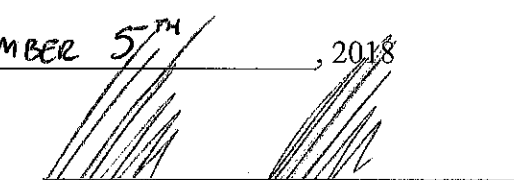
48  
49 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That subsequent numbering in Article V Section 4 reflects  
50 these changes.

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52  
53 Passed by Committee: DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2018

54  
55 Passed by ASUM Senate: DECEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>, 2018

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59 Thomas F. Hiatt,  
60 Elections Chair

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58  
59 Mariah Welch,  
60 Chair of the Senate

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