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SB40-18/19: Resolution Regarding Support for Renewable Energy in the Missoula Community

Cory Beattie

Daniel Carlino

Matt Malloy

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1 **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Regarding Support for Renewable Energy for the Missoula Community**
3 **March 13, 2019**
4 **SB40-18/19**

5 **Authored by: Cory Beattie, UM Student; Daniel Carlino, UM Student; Matt Maloy, UM Student**
6 **Sponsored by: Morgan Corkish, ASUM Senator; Henry Curtis, UM Student; Dakota Hileman, UM**
7 **Student**

8
9 Whereas, The University of Montana (UM) has a duty to foster global citizens;

10
11 Whereas, There is undeniable evidence that human-caused climate change is unprecedented in scope and
12 the magnitude of its consequences are dependent on rapid and collective human action;

13
14 Whereas, Climate change is already causing severe harm and tremendous loss of life on a global scale,
15 while threatening the livability of the planet;

16
17 Whereas, UM stated in its 2010 Climate Action Plan that the campus will support measures to mitigate
18 climate change by becoming carbon neutral by 2020, ensuring that all of campus' energy comes from
19 renewable resources;

20
21 Whereas, According to the 2016 U.S. Department of Energy figures, 94% of U.S. carbon dioxide
22 emissions come from fossil fuel burning¹;

23
24 Whereas, Making a plan to switch the electricity grid to 100% renewable energy will stop the carbon
25 dioxide emissions from the energy sector, thus making a grand step towards mitigating climate change;

26
27 Whereas, The City of Missoula and Missoula County released, "Missoula's 100% Clean Electricity
28 Option Report" on October 20, 2018, that details why and how our community can transition to 100%
29 clean electricity²;

30
31 Whereas, In early April 2019, the city and county will vote on a joint resolution to have the city and
32 county transition to 100% Renewable Energy by 2035;

33
34 Whereas, UM's annual electricity use is larger than both the City of Missoula and Missoula County
35 operations' annual electricity use combined;

36
37 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) urge
38 the UM administration to update its 2010 Climate Action Plan and join the City of Missoula in striving
39 for complete carbon neutrality by 2035, as described in Missoula's 100% Clean Electricity Options
40 Report;

1
"Where Greenhouse Gases Come From." *Where Greenhouse Gases Come From - Energy Explained, Your Guide To Understanding Energy - Energy Information Administration*, U.S Department of Energy, 20 July 2018, www.eia.gov/energyexplained/index.php?page=environment_where_ghg_come_from.

2
Cilimburg, Amy, et al. *Missoula's 100% Clean Electricity Options Report*, v2. Missoula County, 19 Feb. 2019, www.missoulaclimate.org/uploads/4/3/2/6/43267085/missoula100_optionsreport_v2_2-19-19.pdf.

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Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That ASUM urges Faculty and Staff Senate to pass similar resolutions that support transitioning the community of Missoula to 100% Clean Electricity no later than 2035;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That this resolution be sent to: Seth Bodnar, President of the University of Montana; Kelly Webster, Chief of Staff; Eva Rocke, Sustainability Coordinator; Matt Semanoff, Chair of Faculty Senate; Mark Pershouse, Chair-elect of Faculty Senate; Luke Alford, Chair of Staff Senate; Rozlyn Hailey, Chair-elect of Staff Senate; the Montana Consumer Counsel; the Montana Public Service Commission, and to be considered as public comment for the Northwestern Energy Resource Procurement Plan.

Passed by Committee: March 19, 2019

Passed by ASUM Senate: March 20, 2019

Morgan Corkish
Morgan Corkish,
Sustainability Oversight Chair

Mariah Welch
Mariah Welch
Chair of the Senate