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## SB49-18/19: Resolution Regarding ASUM Support for OER Initiatives at the University of Montana

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1                                   **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**  
2                   **Resolution Regarding ASUM Support for OER Initiatives at the University of Montana**  
3                                   **March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

4                                   **SB49-18/19**

5                                   **Authored by: Lyssa Schei, ASUM Senator**

6                                   **Sponsored by:**

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8       Whereas, The University of Montana (UM) currently suffers from a lack of funding due to low  
9       retention rates and dropping enrollment;

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11       Whereas, Tuition and fees nationwide have increased by 63% and textbook costs have risen by  
12       88% since January 2008;

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14       Whereas, Recent studies have found that up to 65% of students opt out of buying textbooks;

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16       Whereas, UM wishes to stay on the forefront of educational trends and increase ease of  
17       accessibility for its students;

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19       Whereas, Open education modules will help students keep money in their pocket and may help  
20       the University see an increase in its retention rates, due to lower prices overall;

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22       Whereas, Open Educational Resource (OER) initiatives would increase student accessibility to  
23       required class texts, assignments, tests, quizzes, and modules;

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25       Whereas, The Treasure State Academic Information & Library Services consortium has created  
26       a statewide OER Committee and has hired an OER Coordinator to oversee the implementation of  
27       OER on Montana campuses;

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29       Whereas, OER at UM is currently funded by the Mansfield Library, Office of the Provost, and  
30       School of Extended & Lifelong Learning;

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32       Whereas, The University's current "Inclusive Access" system creates security concerns, due to  
33       students being required to often give third-parties sensitive university-related information;

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35       Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That the Associated Students of the University of Montana  
36       (ASUM) Senate support the aforementioned offices in furthering OER access at UM;

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38       Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That this resolution be sent to: Jon Harbor, Provost; Barry  
39       Brown, Interim Dean of the Maureen & Mike Mansfield Library; Roger Maclean, Dean of the  
40       School of Extended and Lifelong Learning.

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42       Passed by Committee: March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019

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44       Passed by ASUM Senate: April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
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*Ethan Hanley*

Ethan Hanley,  
Chair of the Relations and Affairs Committee

*Marrah Welton*

Marrah Welton  
Chair of the Senate

DRAFT