

Fall 9-4-2019

SB10-19/20: Resolution Establishing the Constitutional Revision Ad Hoc Committee

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The University Of Montana

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1 **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Establishing the Constitutional Revision Ad Hoc Committee**
3 **August 14, 2019**
4 **SB10-19/20**
5 **Authored by: Zoe Nelson, ASUM Senator;**
6

7 Whereas, A Constitution establishes a system of government, defines the powers and functions
8 of the institutions of government, provides limits to state and non-state action, and regulates the
9 relations between institutions and its people¹;

10
11 Whereas, The Constitution of the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM)
12 regulates the interactions between students² of the University, members³, and the Associated
13 Government⁴;

14
15 Whereas, Constitutions are a reflection of values with respect to the past, present, and future;

16
17 Whereas, The ASUM Constitution was last amended and approved by a student vote on Spring
18 2015;

19
20 Whereas, “ASUM shall be the representative body of the members of the Association, organized
21 exclusively for educational and non-profit purposes,” and “The primary responsibility of the
22 Association is to serve as an advocate for the general welfare of the students.”⁵;

23
24 Whereas, The ASUM Constitution is in need of general revision, clarification, and update to
25 reflect the values and needs of both students and the institution;

26
27 Whereas, Amendments to the ASUM Constitution would better serve the general welfare of
28 students and the functions of government;

29
30 Whereas, Members of the Executive Team and various Senators have voiced a number of
31 concerns relating to the Constitution;

32
33 Whereas, Submitting each concern as an amendment to the Constitution individually will be
34 laborious and disjointed;

35
36 Whereas, New committees shall be subject to the approval of the Senate⁶;

37

¹ Denis J. Galligan and Mila Versteedg. *Social and Political Foundations of Constitutions.*

² “Student” is “defined as anyone currently enrolled in the University of Montana,” in Article I, Section 3 of the Constitution.

³ “Member” is “defined as any Student Activity Fee paying student of the University of Montana,” in Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution.

⁴ The characteristics and functions of the Associated Government are defined in the ASUM Constitution, Article II.

⁵ ASUM Constitution. Article II, Section 1.

⁶ Article 5, Section 2 of the Constitution.

38 Whereas, Establishing the Constitutional Revision Ad Hoc Committee would enable Senators
39 and other interested parties to work collaboratively to develop a revised, clarified, and updated
40 Constitution that reflects the needs and values of ASUM's constituents;

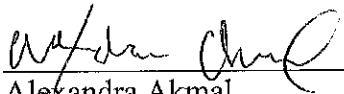
41
42 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That ASUM establish the Constitutional Revision Ad Hoc
43 Committee;

44
45 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That the charge of the Committee reads:

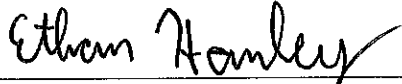
46
47 *"The Constitutional Revision Ad Hoc Committee will explore amendments to the*
48 *Constitution to be enumerated and brought forth as amendment or revision,*
49 *according to Article 10 of the Constitution. The Constitutional Revision Ad Hoc*
50 *Committee will also be responsible for initiating the Constitutional Referendum at*
51 *least six weeks before the General Election, in accordance with Article V, Section*
52 *3 of the Bylaws."*

53
54 Passed by Committee: September 1st, 2019

55
56 Passed by ASUM Senate: September 4th, 2019

57
58 
59 _____

60 Alexandra Akmal,
61 Chair of the Relations and Affairs Committee



Ethan Hanley,
Chair of the Senate