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## **SB42-20/21: Resolution Amending the Threshold for Primary Elections in Article VI, Section 4 of the ASUM Bylaws**

Ethan Hanley

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1                                   **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**  
2                                   **Resolution Amending the Threshold for Primary Elections in Article VI, Section 4 of the**  
3                                   **ASUM Bylaws**  
4                                   **October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020**  
5                                   **SB42 – 20/21**  
6                                   **Authored by: Ethan Hanley, ASUM Business Manager;**

7  
8       Whereas, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) is bound by its  
9       bylaws;

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11       Whereas, ASUM outlines rules for elections in their Bylaws;

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13       Whereas, Before the 2018-2019 academic year, the ASUM Senate got to approve whether a  
14       primary election would be held for any race;

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16       Whereas, In that same year, the Senate approved a change to the Bylaws that mandated a primary  
17       election to be held if there were more than 3 candidates in an Executive race and eliminated the  
18       option for a primary to be held for the Senate race;

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20       Whereas, Allowing three Executive teams to be on the ballot for the general election creates a  
21       plurality, which could allow an Executive team to take office without receiving more than 50%  
22       of the vote;

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24       Whereas, The Senate believes there should only be two candidates that proceed to the general  
25       election to avoid a plurality;

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27       Whereas, Article VI, Section 4 of the Bylaws currently reads:

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

31               *4. The ballots for a primary election will consist of the names of the candidates for the*  
32               *two (2) officer races consisting of more than three (3) candidates or teams of candidates.*

33               *5. The ballots for the general elections shall consist of no more than three (3) Executives*  
34               *or Executive teams for each Executive position and all of the Senate candidates with*  
35               *positions for write-in candidates (with the exception of a tie vote in the primary as per*  
36               *section 5.E of Elections Bylaws).;*

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38       Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That Article VI, Section 4 of the Bylaws be amended to read:

39               *3. A primary election shall only be held for each Executive position having more than ~~two~~*  
40               *~~three~~ (23) 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 a primary election will consist of the names of the candidates for the*  
43               *two (2) officer races consisting of more than ~~two three~~ (23) candidates or teams of*  
44               *candidates.*

45               *5. The ballots for the general elections shall consist of no more than ~~two three~~ (23)*  
46               *Executives or Executive teams for each Executive position and all of the Senate*

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

Passed by Committee: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

Passed by ASUM Senate: November 5, 2020

\_\_\_\_\_  
Noah Durnell,  
Chair of the Relations and Affairs Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick James Flanagan,  
Chair of the Senate