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### **SB50-20/21: Resolution Establishing ASUM's Position Against the Open-Carry of Firearms on the University of Montana Campus**

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1                                   **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**  
2                   **Resolution Establishing ASUM's Position Against the Open-Carry of Firearms on the**  
3                                   **University of Montana Campus**

4                                   **January 17, 2020**

5                                   **SB50-20/21**

6           **Authored by: Jonathan Karlen, ASUM Senator; Lyssa Ann Schei, ASUM Senator; Clara**  
7                                   **Bentler, ASUM Senator;**

8           **Sponsored by: Taylor Gregory, ASUM President; Kelly Armington, ASUM Senator;**  
9

10   Whereas, ASUM represents and advocates for the safety, health, and interest of all 10,015  
11   University of Montana (UM) students;

12  
13   Whereas, The likelihood of a student injured or killed by a firearm is statistically greater when  
14   open-carry is permitted on college campuses<sup>1</sup>;

15  
16   Whereas, Students have direct representation on the Montana Board of Regents;

17  
18   Whereas, The Montana Board of Regents has the expertise, experience, and authority to create  
19   and enforce policies tailored to the needs of Montana college campuses;

20  
21   Whereas, Open-carry in populated areas without a robust education campaign prior to enactment  
22   is a burden and danger to law enforcement<sup>2</sup>, which jeopardizes the safety of UM students;

23  
24   Whereas; The law enforcement response time in an active shooter event at UM will increase with  
25   open-carry permitted because students and employees will not be aware of the intent of a person  
26   carrying a firearm on campus until an act of violence is committed;

27  
28   Whereas, Unlike the training required for concealed-carry, people can open-carry without  
29   training, posing a risk to students in the event that a firearm is discharged, even with good  
30   intentions<sup>3</sup>;

31  
32   Whereas, The University of Montana Police Department (UMPD) has been impacted by budget  
33   cuts because of COVID-19 and may be unable to receive the training necessary to enforce open-  
34   carry laws on campus and educate the community about open-carry laws;

35  
36   Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That ASUM opposes any bill passed by the Montana State  
37   Legislature during the 67<sup>th</sup> Montana legislative session that would allow open-carry on the  
38   University of Montana Campus or reduce the authority of the Montana Board of Regents in  
39   creating policies pertaining to firearms on UM campus;

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<sup>1</sup> Webster, D. W., Donohue, J. J., Klarevas, L., Crifasi, C. K., Vernick, J. S., Jernigan, D., & McGinty, E. E. (2016). Firearms on college campuses: Research evidence and policy implications. Center for Gun Policy and Research, Johns Hopkins University, 132.

<sup>2</sup> Bartula, A., & Bowen, K. (2015). University and college officials' perceptions of open carry on college campus. *Justice Policy Journal*, 12(2), 1-17.

<sup>3</sup> Rostker, B. D., Hanser, L. M., Hix, W. M., Jensen, C., & Morral, A. R. (2008). *Evaluation of the New York City Police Department firearm training and firearm-discharge review process*. Rand Corporation.

40  
41 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That ASUM authorizes ASUM Lobbyist, Jack Rinck to  
42 lobby against legislation that either allows open-carry at the University of Montana campus or  
43 reduces the authority of the Montana Board of Regents in creating policies pertaining to firearms  
44 on UM's campus;

45  
46 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That this resolution be sent to Jack Rinck, ASUM  
47 Lobbyist; Maggie Bornstein, ASUM SPA Director; Allison Reinhardt, Montana Associated  
48 Students Lobbyist.

49  
50  
51 Passed by ASUM Senate: January 20, 2021

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54 \_\_\_\_\_  
55 Patrick James Flanagan,  
56 Chair of the Senate