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### **SB55-20/21: Resolution Regarding Lobbying Efforts to Include Major Repairs Project, "Music Building Infrastructure", in HB5**

Noah Durnell

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1                                   **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**  
2 **Resolution Regarding Lobbying Efforts to Include Major Repairs Project, “Music Building**  
3 **Infrastructure”, in HB5**

4                                   **January 19, 2021**

5                                   **SB55-20/21**

6                                   **Authored by: Noah Durnell, ASUM Senator;**

7  
8       Whereas, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) represents the interests  
9 of students at the University of Montana (UM) at the 67<sup>th</sup> Montana legislative session;

10  
11       Whereas, In a student Qualtrics survey conducted in the fall of 2019 regarding the use of funds  
12 created from the consolidation of UM’s debts, students expressed direct interest in the Music  
13 Building’s need for improvement in which 45.7% of the qualitative responses for improvement  
14 of instructional spaces were in regards to the Music Building;<sup>1</sup>

15  
16       Whereas, There is consistent student interest in renovating the Music Building as evidenced back  
17 in fall of 2019;

18  
19       Whereas, ASUM’s first legislative priority reads:

20  
21                   *Protect and increase state funding of the Montana University System*

- 22                   ● *Increase General Fund appropriations (HB 2) and through other avenues;*
- 23                   ● *Increase opportunities for scholarships and financial aid;*
- 24                   ● *Focus on securing funding for items on the Long-Range Building Plan that the*  
25                    *University of Montana has prioritized (HB 5 and 14);*

26  
27       Whereas, The project “Music Building Infrastructure” under UM’s Major Repair Priority List  
28 was prioritized as #1 under H/LS<sup>2</sup>;

29  
30       Whereas, Despite being highly prioritized on the Long-Range Building Plan for UM, “Music  
31 Building Infrastructure” is not included on HB5;

32  
33       Whereas, ASUM passed SB43 in fall 2020 which resolved:

34  
35                   *Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That ASUM urges the Montana State Legislature to*  
36                    *include UM’s #1 Major Repair Priority titled “Music Building Infrastructure” in the*  
37                    *amount of \$1,500,000 in HB05 at the 67th Montana State Legislative Session;*

38  
39       Whereas, Additional advocacy from ASUM is necessary to reiterate the body’s endorsement  
40 towards including “Music Building Infrastructure” in HB5;

41  

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<sup>1</sup> ASUM Senate. “Campus Improvement Feedback Form”. Oct. 16 2019. PDF

<sup>2</sup> “Item 188-102-R0520\_A3 Montana University System-Long Range Building Program Priority List 67<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session” *Budget, Administration and Audit Committee Agenda – Board of Regents – Montana University System*, May 20, 2020, [https://mus.edu/board/meetings/2020/may2020/adminbudget/188-102-R0520\\_A3.pdf](https://mus.edu/board/meetings/2020/may2020/adminbudget/188-102-R0520_A3.pdf). Accessed Oct 24, 2020. PDF

42 Whereas, The ASUM Lobbyist, Jack Rinck, represents the legislative priorities set forth by  
43 ASUM during the 67<sup>th</sup> Montana legislative session;

44  
45 Whereas, The UM Lobbyist, Dave Kuntz, represents the legislative priorities set forth by the  
46 University of Montana during the 67<sup>th</sup> Montana legislative session;

47  
48 Whereas, Commissioner Ron Muffick from the Office of Commissioner of Higher Education  
49 (OCHE) is representing HB5 during the 67<sup>th</sup> Montana legislative session;

50  
51 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That ASUM tasks ASUM Lobbyist, Jack Rinck, with lobbying  
52 for the inclusion of "Music Building Infrastructure" under HB5;

53  
54 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That ASUM requests UM Lobbyist, Dave Kuntz, be  
55 authorized to lobby for the inclusion of "Music Building Infrastructure" under HB5;

56  
57 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That ASUM requests commissioner Ron Muffick testify  
58 for the inclusion of "Music Building Infrastructure" in HB 5;

59  
60 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That this resolution be sent to Seth Bodnar, President of  
61 UM; Dave Kuntz, UM Lobbyist; Jack Rinck, ASUM Lobbyist, Ron Muffick, Commissioner.

62  
63  
64 Passed by Committee: \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

65  
66 Passed by ASUM Senate: January 27, 2021

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68  
69  
70 \_\_\_\_\_  
71 Noah Durnell,  
72 Chair of the Relations and Affairs Committee

73  
74 \_\_\_\_\_  
75 Patrick James Flanagan,  
76 Chair of the Senate

77  
78  
79  
80 \_\_\_\_\_  
81 Kelly Armington,  
82 Chair of the Student Political Action Committee