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SB65-13/14: Support for Annual Fee Review

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The Associated Students of the University of Montana
Resolution of Support for Annual Fee Review
February 12, 2014
SB65-13/14
Authored by: Asa Hohman, ASUM President

Whereas, the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) represents the students of the University of Montana and the Missoula College;

Whereas, ASUM is obligated to take action on items and programs that are supported by the majority of the student body;

Whereas, ASUM Executives and Senators serve only a one-year term;

Whereas, the Montana State Board of Regents only accepts fee increase proposals on a biennium basis (every other year);

Whereas, student-driven fee initiatives have been voted on by the student body as a whole and are only brought to the Board of Regents if a majority of the student body supports said fee initiatives;

Whereas, ASUM leadership may not be the same from year to year, and there is no continuity that would guarantee a fee supported by the students that was brought to the Board of Regents;

Whereas, some fees supported by students are for programming that would fulfill an immediate need and cannot wait for the biennium;

Whereas, students of the Montana University System should have as much say in what fees they pay, or do not pay, as possible;

Whereas, if a fee initiative is supported by the student body in a freely held election it would be inappropriate to deny students the ability to support the programming they voted for;

Whereas, students in the Montana University System are capable of making decisions that affect their finances for themselves;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that ASUM encourages the Montana State Board of Regents to allow for annual fee proposals for student-driven fee initiatives, and only for student driven fee initiatives;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to: the Montana Associated Students; Clayton Christian, The Commissioner of Higher Education; Royce Engstrom, the President of the University of Montana; Rosi Keller, the Associate Vice President of Administration and Finance; and each individual member of the Montana State Board of Regents.

Passed by Committee: February 10, 2014
Passed by ASUM Senate: February 12, 2014
Final Vote: Unanimous Consent

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Sean McQuillan,     Mariah Williams,
Relations and Affairs Chair    Chair of the Senate