Spring 2013

SB42-12/13: LC1849

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The Associated Students of The University of Montana
Resolution Regarding LC1849
January 30, 2013
SB42-12/13
Authored by: Eamon Ormseth, ASUM Senator
Sponsored by: Zach Brown, ASUM President; Asa Hohman, ASUM Lobbyist; Katherine Brady; ASUM Renter Center Director

Whereas, The Associated Students of The University of Montana (ASUM) represents over 15,000 students;

Whereas, over 10,000 students at The University of Montana rent housing in and around the Missoula community;

Whereas, 75% of first-year students move off-campus after their first year.

Whereas, since September 2011 the ASUM Off-Campus Renter Center has seen 28 students specifically to address unsafe rental conditions;

Whereas, in this same period of time, the ASUM Off-Campus Renter Center has helped a significant number of other renters address unsafe living conditions in their rentals;

Whereas, the vacancy rate in Missoula is approximately 3%;

Whereas, low vacancy rates lead to a reduced need for landlords to provide quality living conditions for renters;

Whereas, quality living conditions are important for the health and safety of renters;

Whereas, the ASUM Off-Campus Renter Center’s website supports new legislation to revise the Montana Residential Tenant and Landlord Act to further protect renters.

Whereas, LC1849 would authorize municipalities to ensure compliance, through inspection, with existing state building codes, as enumerated in the Montana Residential Tenant and Landlord Act.

Whereas, compliance with existing building codes is an integral part of providing quality living conditions and ensuring the health and safety of renters.

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that The Associated Students of The University of Montana support the passage of the bill that LC1849 will become;

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to Representative Tom Steenberg, sponsor; Senator Jackson, Chair of the Senate Committee on Business, Labor, and Economic Affairs; Senator Essmann, Senate President; Kevin McRae, MUS Lobbyist; Asa Hohman, ASUM Lobbyist; and Bill Johnston, University of Montana lobbyist, when LC1849 becomes a bill.
Passed by Committee: ________________________, 2013

Passed by ASUM Senate: ________________________, 2013

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Damara Simpson,  Bryn Hagfors,  
Relations and Affairs Chair  Chair of the Senate