Spring 2013

SB49-12/13: HB166

Eamon Ormseth

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The Associated Students of The University of Montana
Resolution Regarding HB166
February 6, 2013
SB49-12/13
Authored by: Eamon Ormseth, ASUM Senator
Sponsored by: Nicole Watkins, ASUM Senator; Shelby Ryann Dolezal, ASUM Senator; Micah L. Nielsen, ASUM Business Manager; Zach Brown, ASUM President;

Whereas, The Associated Students of The University of Montana (ASUM) represent over 15,000 students;
Whereas, the cost of higher education continues to grow throughout the nation;
Whereas, in 1970, the Montana state government provided for roughly 70% of the cost of in-state public higher education for a full-time equivalent student;
Whereas, the Montana state government now contributes roughly 30% of the cost of in-state public higher education, constituting a reduction of roughly 40% in state funding of postsecondary education;
Whereas, higher education continues to remain an important personal economic investment;
Whereas, a ballot referendum in 1986 created a state lottery of which the proceeds go towards higher education, namely that of educator pensions;
Whereas, lottery proceeds are currently directed into the state general fund;
Whereas, HB166, by redirecting the lottery proceeds into a scholarship fund for students enrolled in postsecondary institutions, would be commensurate with the general will of the voters;
Whereas, recruiting and retaining high-performing high school students is an important investment in Montana’s economy

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that ASUM supports the passage of HB166;
Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to Representative Amanda Curtis, sponsor, and Representative Kristin Hansen, Chair of The House Education Committee, for distribution to the members of the committee.

Passed by Committee: ____________________________, 2013
Passed by ASUM Senate: ____________________________, 2013
48 Damara Simpson,  
Relations and Affairs Chair  

49 Bryn Hagfors,  
Chair of the Senate