Spring 2012

SB45-11/12: Socially Responsible Apparel

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The Associated Students of The University of Montana
Resolution Regarding Socially Responsible Apparel
March 21, 2012
Senate Bill Number: SB45-11/12
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Clayton Springmeyer, ASUM Senator
Sponsored by: ASUM Sustainability Center, Travis Suzuki, ASUM Senator,
Students for Economic and Social Justice, Jen Gursky, ASUM President
and the Bookstore at The University of Montana

Whereas, The University of Montana’s strategic plan acknowledges the importance of a
global perspective and understanding which includes the objective of “global engagement
and leadership at all levels”;

Whereas, the State of Montana Constitution’s Declaration of Rights includes the phrase
“rights of pursuing life’s basic necessities, enjoying and defending their lives and
liberties, acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and seeking their safety, health
and happiness in all lawful ways”;

Whereas, many apparel factories in developing countries exploit workers by forcing long
hours of work, unsafe working conditions, stifling efforts to unionize, and hiring
children;

Whereas, the Worker Rights Consortium (WRC) “conducts independent, in-depth
investigations; issues public reports on factories producing for major brands; and aids
workers at these factories in their efforts to end labor abuses and defend their workplace
rights”;

Whereas, Alta Gracia meets the WRC standards by paying a living wage to every worker
in their Dominican Republic factory and ensuring workers are allowed the right to a safe
and healthy workplace, the right to be treated with dignity and respect on the job, and the
right to form a union;

Whereas, students can only effectively support Alta Gracia if there are a variety of sizes
and style options in stock;

Whereas, Alta Gracia has competitive prices and appearance as the other collegiate
apparel options in the Bookstore at The University of Montana;

Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that The Associated Students of The University of
Montana (ASUM) endorses the current stock of Alta Gracia apparel at the Bookstore of
The University of Montana and that ASUM encourages the Bookstore to increase its
supply of Alta Gracia or other comparably socially responsible apparel.

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM will use Alta Gracia or a comparably
Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, ASUM encourages and recommends University of Montana collegiate licensing contracts seek socially responsible merchandise for all licensed University of Montana merchandise.

Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that ASUM recommends the Bookstore at The University of Montana partner with the student group Students for Economic and Social Justice in advertising socially responsible apparel through methods such as tabling, raffles, prominent bookstore displays, and other measures. actively advertise socially responsible apparel, such as their Alta Gracia line.

Passed by Committee: ___________________________, 2012

Passed by ASUM Senate: ____________________________, 2012

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Travis Suzuki,Jeff Edmunds,
Relations and Affairs ChairChair of the Senate