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SB65-14/15: Resolution of Support for Annual Fee Review

Asa Hohman

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The Associated Students of the University of Montana
Resolution of Support for Annual Fee Review
February 4, 2015
SB65-14/15
Authored by: Asa Hohman, ASUM President
Sponsored by:

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 (BOR) 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 BOR 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 BOR;

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 as possible in what fees they pay, or do not pay;

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 BOR 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: ____________________, 2015

Passed by ASUM Senate: ____________________, 2015

Sarah Smith, Sean McQuillan,
Relations and Affairs Chair Chair of the Senate