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Asa Hohman

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1 **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Regarding “Spirit Animal” Question**
3 **October 15, 2014**
4 **SB036-14/15**
5 **Authored by: Asa Hohman, ASUM President**
6 **Sponsored by: Sean McQuillan, ASUM Vice President**
7

8 Whereas, the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) represents all students
9 of the University of Montana;

10
11 Whereas, ASUM is obligated to make all students feel welcome and safe at any ASUM meeting
12 or committee;

13
14 Whereas, asking senators and guests what their “spirit animal” is has been carried on from year
15 to year by certain members of senate;

16
17 Whereas, the topic of “spirit animals” can be seen as cultural appropriation;

18
19 Whereas, several students expressed that the topic of “spirit animals” in a non-spiritual setting is
20 offensive to them;

21
22 Whereas, the question of “spirit animals” adds no substance to ASUM meetings and serves no
23 legitimate purpose;

24
25 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, that ASUM will no longer ask the question of “spirit animals”
26 during ASUM meetings.

27
28
29 Passed by Committee:

30
31 Passed by ASUM Senate: _____, 2014

32
33 _____
34 Sarah Smith,
35 Relations and Affairs Chair

Sean McQuillan,
Chair of the Senate