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Spring 2013

### SB49-12/13: HB166

Eamon Ormseth

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1                                   **The Associated Students of The University of Montana**  
2   **Resolution Regarding HB166**  
3   **February 6, 2013**  
4   **SB49-12/13**

5   **Authored by: Eamon Ormseth, ASUM Senator**  
6                                   **Sponsored by: Nicole Watkins, ASUM Senator; Shelby Ryann Dolezal, ASUM**  
7   **Senator; Micah L. Nielsen, ASUM Business Manager; Zach Brown, ASUM**  
8   **President;**  
9

10   Whereas, The Associated Students of The University of Montana (ASUM) represent over  
11   15,000 students;

12  
13   Whereas, the cost of higher education continues to grow throughout the nation;

14  
15   Whereas, in 1970, the Montana state government provided for roughly 70% of the cost of  
16   in-state public higher education for a full-time equivalent student;

17  
18   Whereas, the Montana state government now contributes roughly 30% of the cost of in-  
19   state public higher education, constituting a reduction of roughly 40% in state funding of  
20   postsecondary education;

21  
22   Whereas, higher education continues to remain an important personal economic  
23   investment;

24  
25   Whereas, a ballot referendum in 1986 created a state lottery of which the proceeds go  
26   towards higher education, namely that of educator pensions;

27  
28   Whereas, lottery proceeds are currently directed into the state general fund;

29  
30   Whereas, HB166, by redirecting the lottery proceeds into a scholarship fund for students  
31   enrolled in postsecondary institutions, would be commensurate with the general will of  
32   the voters;

33  
34   Whereas, recruiting and retaining high-performing high school students is an important  
35   investment in Montana's economy

36  
37   Therefore, Let It Be Resolved that ASUM supports the passage of HB166;

38  
39   Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved that a copy of this resolution be sent to  
40   Representative Amanda Curtis, sponsor, and Representative Kristin Hansen, Chair of The  
41   House Education Committee, for distribution to the members of the committee.

42  
43   Passed by Committee: \_\_\_\_\_, 2013

44  
45   Passed by ASUM Senate: \_\_\_\_\_, 2013  
46

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48 Damara Simpson,  
49 Relations and Affairs Chair

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Bryn Hagfors,  
Chair of the Senate