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SB72-20/21: Resolution Urging the University of Montana to Provide Free Menstrual Hygiene Products in All Campus Restrooms

Canyon Lock

Elizabeth Bowles

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1 **The Associated Students of the University of Montana**
2 **Resolution Urging the University of Montana To Provide Free Menstrual Hygiene**
3 **Products in All Campus Restrooms**

4 **March 13, 2021**

5 **SB72-20/21**

6 **Authored By: Canyon Lock, ASUM Senator; Elizabeth Bowles, ASUM Senator;**
7
8

9 Whereas, The purpose of the Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) is to
10 “serve as an advocate for the general welfare of the students”¹;

11
12 Whereas, The need to purchase menstrual hygiene products places a disproportionate financial
13 burden on some but not all students who attend the University of Montana;

14
15 Whereas, Attending a university will likely be cause for significant temporal and financial
16 limitations on a student, and inhibit their access to capital;

17
18 Whereas, It is not equitable that some students should be made to pay out of pocket for products
19 necessary for hygiene pertaining to biological processes, particularly while this financial burden
20 does not affect other students on campus;

21
22 Whereas, The University of Montana (UM) supplies toilet paper in all campus restrooms;

23
24 Whereas, Menstrual products are available for an amount of money either in restrooms or shops
25 on campus;

26
27 Whereas, UM supplies free contraceptives on multiple places on campus;

28
29 Whereas, Multiple states have passed legislation requiring that schools supply free menstrual
30 hygiene products in school bathrooms²;

31
32 Whereas, Other universities, including the University of Washington, provide gratuitous
33 menstrual hygiene products in all campus restrooms³;

34

¹ Associated Students of the University of Montana, “ASUM Constitution”, Accessed 3/18

² Jennifer Calfas, “More States Consider Free Tampons in School Bathrooms,” The Wall Street Journal (Dow Jones & Company, February 25, 2020), <https://www.wsj.com/articles/more-states-consider-free-tampons-in-school-bathrooms-11582626601>.

³ Allison Nitch, “Update: Free Menstrual Product Program,” Update: Free menstrual product program | UW Facilities Blog, accessed March 18, 2021, <https://facilities.uw.edu/blog/posts/2018/11/08/pilot-program-becomes-permanent>.

35 Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, That the ASUM urge the university administration to invest in
36 providing free menstrual hygiene products in all campus restrooms;

37

38 Therefore, Let It Further Be Resolved, That this resolution be sent to: Seth Bodnar, President of
39 the University of Montana, and Paul Lasiter, Vice President for Operations and Finance at the
40 University of Montana, Maggie Bornstein, Director of Women's Resource Center, Jeff Adams,
41 Medical Director of Curry Health Center, Twila Old Coyote, S.E.A. Change Director.

42

43 Passed By Committee: _____, 2021

44 Passed By ASUM Senate: March 24, 2021

45

46

47 _____
48 Noah Durnell,
Chair of the Relations and Affairs Committee

Patrick James Flanagan,
Chair of the Senate