University of Montana

ScholarWorks at University of Montana

Senate Resolutions, 2007-Present

ASUM Student Government

Fall 12-3-2020

SB46-20/21: Resolution Establishing the ASUM Legislative Priorities

Taylor Gregory

Patrick James Flanagan

Maggie Bornstein

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.umt.edu/asum_resolutions

Let us know how access to this document benefits you.

1	The Associated Students of the University of Montana
2	Resolution Establishing the ASUM Legislative Priorities
3	November 30, 2020
4	SB46-20/21
5	Authored by: Taylor Gregory, ASUM President; Patrick James Flanagan, ASUM Vice
6	President; Maggie Bornstein, SPA Director;
7	Sponsored by: Kelly Armington, ASUM Senator; Lyssa Schei, ASUM Senator; Marley
8	Merchen, ASUM Senator; Jonathan Karlen, ASUM Senator; Elizabeth Bowles, ASUM
9	Senator; Clara Bentler, ASUM Senator; Jack Rinck, ASUM Lobbyist;
10	
11	Whereas, The Associated Students of the University of Montana (ASUM) represents the interests
12	of all students of the University of Montana (UM);
13	
14	Whereas, ASUM advocates on behalf of the health, well-being, and success of UM students;
15	
16	Whereas, The Montana State Legislature will convene beginning on January 4th, 2021;
17	
18	Whereas, Policy decisions made by the Legislature will impact the lives of UM students;
19	
20	Whereas, Each legislative session ASUM establishes a set of legislative priorities prior to the
21	session;
22	
23	Whereas, A lobbyist is hired on behalf of ASUM to advocate for all UM students based on the
24	legislative priorities at the Montana legislative session;
25	
26	Whereas, ASUM recently sent out a survey to the student body that allowed them to provide
27	feedback on what ASUM should prioritize lobbying efforts for in the upcoming legislative
28	session;
29	
30	Whereas, 340 students responded to the legislative priorities survey;
31	
32	Whereas, The ASUM Student Political Action (SPA) Committee met on December 2, 2020 to
33	discuss and vote on ASUM's legislative priorities;
34	
35	Therefore, Let It Be Resolved, The students of UM call upon their representatives in the
36	Montana Legislature to support the rights of all UM students to a high-quality and affordable
37	higher education experience;
38	
39	Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That the first legislative priority reads:
40	
41	Protect and increase state funding of the Montana University System
42	 Increase General Fund appropriations (HB 2) and through other avenues;
43	 Increase opportunities for scholarships and financial aid;
44	• Focus on securing funding for items on the Long-Range Building Plan that the
45	University of Montana has prioritized (HB 5 and 14);
46	Control and of size the same provide the same and size a same a sign

Therefore. Let It Be Further Resolved, That the second legislative priority reads: 47 48 Student Tenant Issues 49 • Protect students in Landlord-Tenant Legislation; 50 • Advocate for protections afforded to renters when the onset of the COVID-19 51 pandemic first happened; 52 53 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That the third legislative priority reads: 54 55 Support and advocate for affordable and accessible mental health resources, and health 56 care options 57 58 • Allocation of funding to mental health programs in and affiliated to Montana universities; 59 Supporting measures that keep Medicaid expansion to students and subsequent 60 61 protections; 62 63 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That the fourth legislative priority reads: 64 65 Promote non-discrimination policies. 66 • Equity Protection under the laws of Montana for all students regardless of race, sex, gender expression, sexual orientation, ability, culture, genetic information, 68 age, veteran status, social origin or condition, or political or religious ideas; 70 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That the fifth legislative priority reads: 71 72 Support and advocate for reproductive healthcare and protect reproductive rights 73 • Protect funding and accessibility to reproductive healthcare 74 • Maintain legal protections for abortions and reproductive healthcare services; Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That in circumstances of extreme time constraint, the ASUM Lobbyist shall first contact the ASUM President, second, the ASUM Student Political Action Director, and third, the chair of the Student Political Action Committee to achieve clarity 78 on any legislative questions that are not explicitly laid out in ASUM's legislative priorities; 80 81 Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That ASUM authorizes the ASUM President, ASUM Student Political Action Director, and ASUM Lobbyist to advocate on behalf of all students at UM; Therefore, Let It Be Further Resolved, That the priorities set forth shall serve as the official legislative priorities of ASUM. Passed by Committee: ____, 2020 Passed by ASUM Senate: December 3 , 2020

67

69

75

76 77

79

82

83 84

85

86 87 88

89 90

91 92

93
94
95 Patrick James Flanagan,
96 Chair of the Senate