

May 22-23, 2019

ITEM 183-2011-R0519

Request for authorization to increase construction authority for the American Indian Hall project to \$20,000,000 and to expend \$2,000,000 in Student Building Fee Reserves toward the project; Montana State University

THAT

Consistent with the provisions of MCA 18-2-102(c) and BOR policy 1003.7, the Board of Regents of Higher Education authorizes MSU to expend up to \$20,000,000 to construct a new American Indian Hall. Consistent with Board Policy 940.9.2, the Board of Regents of Higher Education authorized MSU to apply \$2,000,000 in Student Building Fees Reserves to the American Indian Hall project.

EXPLANATION

1. The American Indian Hall project was originally conceptualized as the Native American Student Center, at an estimated cost of \$8,000,000, and received Legislative Authority Only approval in 2005.
 2. Since then, the number of Native American students enrolled at Montana State University has increased from 268 in autumn of 2005 to 776 in autumn of 2018, a 189-percentage growth.
 3. Recognizing the need for additional instructional and academic support space, the project has been reconceptualized as the American Indian Hall.
 4. This facility will provide critically-needed classrooms and academic support areas for American Indian and the general student body in an environment that celebrates American Indian heritage and provides opportunities for cultural exchange within the academic and local communities.
 5. The planning for the building project was approved by the Board of Regents in May 2018 (Item 179-2003-R0518). The project was included in the Long-Range Building Program priorities at the May 2018 public meeting (Item 179-101-R0518) for an expansion of the Legislative Authority Only from \$8,000,000 to \$12,000,000, due to inflationary increases in local market construction prices.
 6. The Alumni Foundation of Montana State University raised a total of \$18,000,000 toward the project's construction.
 7. The Associated Students of Montana State University approved the use of \$2,000,000 in Student Building Fees for the American Indian Hall project on October 4, 2018 (attachment 2).
 8. Authority to expend up to \$20,000,000 will allow for more classroom space to be included in the facility, providing instructional and cultural benefits to all MSU students.
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ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment #1 – Physical Plan B Section 1003.7
- Attachment #2 – ASMSU resolution