



2023-R-14

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Resolution In Support of the Student Health Fee

Sponsor: Anja Lincke Yes 16 No 0 Abs 0
Senators Present: 16
Co-Sponsors: Jacob Zink Date: 13 April 2023
Rosa Roccisano Speaker Signature:
Vote Necessary: Majority Paytyn Wilson

- 1 **Intent:** The Associated Students of Montana State University (ASMSU) support the proposed
2 Student Health fee increase for fiscal year (FY) 2024 and FY 2025.
3
4 **Whereas,** The Student Health Fee provides MSU students who are enrolled in 7 or more credits
5 access to medical services, dental services, counseling & psychological services (CPS),
6 prevention, and education; and,
7
8 **Whereas,** With the transition into the new Student Wellness Center (SWC), the increased cost of
9 business, and the national increase of the utilization of student health services (Annual Report
10 2019; HMS, 2019), Montana State University (MSU) student health services require additional
11 funding to continue to meet the needs of students; and,
12
13 **Whereas,** the MSU Vice President for Administration and Finance recommends an increase of
14 10.6% (\$27.00) in FY24 and a 10.25% (\$29.75) in FY25 to the Student Health Fee; and,
15
16 **Whereas,** This fee increase would fund (1) six existing counselor positions previously funded by
17 Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) COVID relief funding, (2) an 8% increase
18 in clinical staff salaries to adjust for inflation, (3) additional administrative staff to support SWC,
19 including the Student Health Director, Budget and Finance Manager, and Associate Director of
20 Marketing, and (4) the increase cost of consumable medical materials; and,
21
22 **Whereas,** Student Health Services and Student Wellness has named responsible and strategic
23 use of student fees as a guiding principle of the operations of the SWC and has reduced the fee
24 increase ask by proactively integrating cost efficiencies into the operational model, including
25 shared software platforms across departments, and streamlined operation, maintenance, and
26 custodial costs. Moreover, the Student Wellness Center plans to cross train positions across
27 departments to ensure adequate staffing to meet the demands of expanded operational hours in a
28 manner that is fiscally and operationally efficient; and,
29
30 **Whereas,** students value funding Student Health services to support sufficient and equitable
31 access to medical, dental, counseling and prevention services to students; and,
32
33 **Whereas,** ASMSU passed a resolution (2023-R-11) highlighting the critical importance of CPS;
34 now, therefore, be it



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2 **Resolved**, ASMSU endorses the Student Health Fee increases as presented to ASMSU Senate by
3 Aaron Mitchell, the Associate Vice President of Financial Services; and,
4
5 **Further resolved**, Submit this resolution to: Regent Loren Bough; Regent Todd Buchanan;
6 Regent Joyce Dombrowski; Regent Casey Lozar; Regent Brianne Rogers; Regent Jeff
7 Southworth; Student Regent, Norris Blossom; Briane Rogers, Chair of Montana University
8 System Board of Regents; President of Montana State University, Dr. Waded Cruzado; Vice
9 President of Administration and Finance, Terry Leist; Assistant Vice President of Accounting
10 and Finance, Aaron Mitchell; Director of the University Budget Office, Megan Lasso; Dean of
11 Students, Matt Caires; Vice President of Communications, Tracy Ellig; AVP of Student
12 Wellness, Amber Long; Director of MSU Counseling and Psychological Services, Elizabeth
13 Asserson; ASMSU President, Lucas Oelkers; ASMSU Business Manager, Halton Stancil; the
14 Bozeman Chronicle, the MSU Exponent, and KGLT Radio.
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- 1 VOTE:
Berry: Yes
Bronstein: Yes
Burchfield: Yes
Clark: Yes
Delker: Yes
Kaiser: Yes
Knudsen: Yes
Lerum: Absent
Lincke: Yes
Mathews: Yes
Musar: Yes
Ramirez: Yes
Roccisano: Yes
Scheldorf: Yes
Servheen : Yes
Sommers: Absent
Van Steeland: Yes
Vasquez: Absent
Wendt: Absent
Zink : Yes

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