2015-R-06
Affirmation of Support for Interim Study Bill

Sponsors: Kaitlyn Wernik
Hannah Hardcastle

Yes 8, No 3, Abs 5
Date: 5 March 2015

Vote Necessary: Majority

Intent: To express the support of the Associated Students of Montana State University for the creation and passage of an Interim Study Bill during the 2015 Montana Legislative Session regarding how institutions in the state of Montana including but not limited to the Montana University System respond to Sexual Assault;

Whereas, according to the 2014 Annual Security and Fire Safety Report, Montana State University reported 13 accounts of Forcible Sex Offences as well as 22 accounts of Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, and Stalking; and,

Whereas, According to The Montana Incident Based Reporting System, there were 1295 reported cases of Sexual Assault and Stalking* statewide in 2013. 160 of those cases occurred in Gallatin County. Bozeman accounts for 47.5% of those reports; and,

Whereas, Only 13 percent of sexual assault survivors report assault**; and,

Whereas, there is a need to reevaluate how institutions within the state of Montana respond to sexual assault. These measures include but are not limited to implementing degrees of sex crimes, redefining consent, resolving jurisdictional issues between law enforcement and universities, and encouraging prevention as a primary strategy for changing rape culture.

Therefore, let it be resolved that: the Associated Students of Montana State University express their support for the creation and passage of an Interim Study Bill during the 2015 Montana Legislative Session regarding how institutions in the state of Montana including but not limited to the Montana University System respond to Sexual Assault.

Let it be further resolved that: a copy of this resolution be sent to Dr. Waded Cruzado, Montana State University President; Matt Caires, Dean of Students; Destini French, ASMSU President; Gail Schontzler, Bozeman Daily Chronicle; Julie Donagan, MSU Exponent.

* Includes Sexual Assault, Sexual Abuse of Children, Incest, Sexual Intercourse Without Consent, Same-Sex Forcible Rape, Statutory Rape, and Stalking.
**Statistic taken from the It’s On Us Campaign.