2017-R-12

Affirmation of Support for the March for Science

Sponsor: Scott Killian
Co-Sponsors: Hannah Johnson
Kade Falls Down

Yes | 5 No | 0 Abs | 0
Date: 13 April, 2017
Speaker Signature: [Signature]

Vote Necessary: Majority

Intent: ASMSU supports the non-partisan March for Science, to be held in Bozeman and nationwide on April 22, 2017, and its call for evidence-based policymaking at the local and national level.

Whereas, The current political climate is plagued by fake news and “alternative facts,” and politicians are actively pursuing policy positions in opposition to evidence-based information; and,

Whereas, If approved, the recently-submitted federal budget proposal would cut funding for scientific research and science-based agencies on the order of tens of billions of dollars¹; and,

Whereas, The March for Science does not seek to protest a specific person or political party, but a growing trend of anti-science agendas and policies; and,

Whereas, Implementing evidence-based policy generally improves government performance²; and,

Whereas, Science supports our high quality of life, helps us to better understand the challenges we face, and can contribute to effective policy formation³; and,

Whereas, MSU is among the nation’s top research universities with expenditures of over $100 million used to support research across the colleges, departments, institutes, and centers at MSU and across Montana⁴; and,

Whereas, Brilliant students are drawn to MSU, because of extensive research opportunities. MSU is one of the top institutions for producing Goldwater Scholars, the nation’s premier scholarship for undergraduates studying math, natural sciences and engineering⁵; and,

Whereas, Every dollar invested nationwide in agricultural research and development yields a return of $17.50. In Montana, this return is far greater at $45.00 for every dollar invested⁶; and,

Whereas, MSU contributes 13,000 jobs and over $1 billion to the state economy⁷; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Associated Students of Montana State University stands behind the March for Science and supports science-based policy formation at the local and national scale; and,
Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to Dr. Waded Cruzado, President of Montana State University; Tracy Ellig, Executive Director of University Communications; Garrett Leach, President of ASMSU; Geneva Zoltek, Vice President of ASMSU; Erin Murdock, Editor In-Chief of the MSU Exponent; Nick Ehli, Managing Editor of the Bozeman Daily Chronicle; Steve Bullock, Governor of Montana; State Representative Zach Brown; State Senator Jedediah Hinkle; State Representative Chris Pope; State Senator J.P. Pomichowski; State Representative Tom Woods; State Senator Mike Phillips; Emma Bode, Sustainability Now Leader; Gerrit Egnew, Science Policy Advocacy Network Co-President; Haley Cox, Science Policy Advocacy Network Co-President.

Citations


