

2017-R-12

Affirmation of Support for the March for Science

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

Yes 15 No 0 Abs 0
Date: 13 April 2017

Speaker Signature:

[Handwritten Signature]

Vote Necessary: Majority

- 1 Intent: ASMSU supports the non-partisan March for Science, to be held in Bozeman and
2 nationwide on April 22, 2017, and its call for evidence-based policymaking at the local and
3 national level.
4
5 Whereas, The current political climate is plagued by fake news and "alternative facts," and
6 politicians are actively pursuing policy positions in opposition to evidence-based information;
7 and,
8
9 Whereas, If approved, the recently-submitted federal budget proposal would cut funding for
10 scientific research and science-based agencies on the order of tens of billions of dollars1; and,
11
12 Whereas, The March for Science does not seek to protest a specific person or political party, but
13 a growing trend of anti-science agendas and policies; and,
14
15 Whereas, Implementing evidence-based policy generally improves government performance2;
16 and,
17
18 Whereas, Science supports our high quality of life, helps us to better understand the challenges
19 we face, and can contribute to effective policy formation3; and,
20
21 Whereas, MSU is among the nation's top research universities with expenditures of over \$100
22 million used to support research across the colleges, departments, institutes, and centers at MSU
23 and across Montana4; and,
24
25 Whereas, Brilliant students are drawn to MSU, because of extensive research opportunities.
26 MSU is one of the top institutions for producing Goldwater Scholars, the nation's premier
27 scholarship for undergraduates studying math, natural sciences and engineering5; and,
28
29 Whereas, Every dollar invested nationwide in agricultural research and development yields a
30 return of \$17.50. In Montana, this return is far greater at \$45.00 for every dollar invested6; and,
31
32 Whereas, MSU contributes 13,000 jobs and over \$1 billion to the state economy7; now,
33 therefore, be it
34
35 Resolved, That the Associated Students of Montana State University stands behind the March
36 for Science and supports science-based policy formation at the local and national scale; and,

1 **Resolved**, That a copy of this resolution be sent to Dr. Waded Cruzado, President of Montana
 2 State University; Tracy Ellig, Executive Director of University Communications; Garrett Leach,
 3 President of ASMSU; Geneva Zoltek, Vice President of ASMSU; Erin Murdock, Editor In-Chief
 4 of the MSU Exponent; Nick Ehli, Managing Editor of the Bozeman Daily Chronicle; Steve
 5 Bullock, Governor of Montana; State Representative Zach Brown; State Senator Jedediah
 6 Hinkle; State Representative Chris Pope; State Senator J.P. Pomichowski; State Representative
 7 Tom Woods; State Senator Mike Phillips; Emma Bode, Sustainability Now Leader; Gerrit
 8 Egnew, Science Policy Advocacy Network Co-President; Haley Cox, Science Policy Advocacy
 9 Network Co-President.

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 12 Citations

- 13
 14 1. Soffen, Kim, and Denise Lou. "What's Getting Cut in Trump's Budget." *The Washington*
 15 *Post*. WP Company, 16 Mar. 2017.
 16 2. *Evidence-Based Policymaking: A Guide for Effective Governance*. Rep. Pew-MacArthur
 17 Results First Initiative, Nov. 2014.
 18 3. "Science Based Policy Making." *Atomium European Institute for Science, Media and*
 19 *Democracy*. 2017. Web.
 20 4. Office of Research and Economic Development. "Research at MSU." Montana State
 21 University. Web: <http://www.montana.edu/research/index.html>
 22 5. "MSU Students Finish Strong Year of Major Scholarship Wins." *Montana State*
 23 *University*. MSU News Service, 05 May 2016.
 24 6. Boyer, Charles. "Our Foundation for the Future." College of Agriculture Reflections
 25 Column. Jan. 2017.
 26 7. MSU News Service, *Study: MSU contributes more than 13,500 jobs and \$1 billion to*
 27 *state's economy*, MSU News Service, Web: [http://www.montana.edu/news/9255/study-
 29 msu-contributes-more-than-13-500-jobs-and-1-billion-to-state-s-economy](http://www.montana.edu/news/9255/study-

 28 msu-contributes-more-than-13-500-jobs-and-1-billion-to-state-s-economy)