

ITEM 147-1015-R0510

MontPIRG Fee Assessment; The University of Montana - Missoula

THAT

Consistent with the BOR Policy 940.12.1 (Tuition and Fee Approval) and BOR Policy 506.1 (Student Participation in Fee Decisions) the Board of Regents of the Montana University System approves the assessment of a MontPIRG \$5 per student, per semester, refundable fee.

EXPLANATION

The Montana Public Interest Research Group (MontPIRG) is a statewide, student directed, non-profit, non-partisan advocacy organization who have been active in Montana for over 30 years. MontPIRG serves to provide a constructive voice in public policy debate and provide a venue for student advocacy on subjects relevant to education interests. MontPIRG empowers students by pooling their resources to hire professional staff that works with students, giving themselves the skills, knowledge, and presence needed to pursue lasting change.

Over 2,500 students signed a petition in support of the MontPIRG fee being placed on the spring ballot. On April 14, 2010, the Student Senate passed referendum language for the ballot as follows:

“Do you support the funding of a MontPIRG chapter at the University of Montana through a \$5 per student, per semester refundable fee? Any student not wanting to pay the fee can get a refund”

The referendum to establish the \$5 fee passed with approximately 54% of the vote—1,135 students voted in favor, while 979 opposed the fee.

ATTACHMENTS

Student Referendum