Bill to adopt the Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference Vision

WHEREAS This document was developed by students from across higher education institutions in the Northwest at the 2013 Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference.

WHEREAS The majority of institutions represented at this conference are signatories to the President’s Climate Commitment, which require, for example: “Establish a policy of offsetting all greenhouse gas emissions generated by air travel paid for by our institution.”

WHEREAS The vision of the students in Oregon is to empower and develop leaders through a culture of sustainability that fosters relationships between all campus constituents and the broader communities of which they are a part. A culture of sustainability includes:

- Expectations of inclusive and collaborative decision making processes, which include students, faculty, staff, administrators, alumni, and the surrounding communities;
- Embedded sustainability throughout curriculum in all departments;
- An emphasis on active transportation, and a minimization of privately owned vehicles; and
- Physical spaces that reflect innovative understanding of systems and place-based, culturally responsible, identity;
- The establishment of structures to ensure the longevity of such practices.

BE IT HEREBY ENACTED BY THE 72ND ASOSU CONGRESS THAT:

From this date until Oregon Higher Education Sustainability Conference 2019, ASOSU will partner with and expect our institution’s leadership to take action on the following tangible steps towards a true culture of sustainability through the following ways:

- Finalize a plan for a Zero Waste campuses that will be accomplished by 2025, which equates to 90% diversion from the waste stream;
- Formalize a commitment to transparent endowments, socially responsible investments, and a complete divestment from fossil fuels;
• Establish a Green Revolving Fund on each campus;
• Develop a requirement in each major that addresses the intersection of sustainability and the field of study;
• Halve the percentage of single-occupancy vehicles used to commute (students, staff, faculty);
• Create a system for access to affordable, healthy, and just food, which could include establishing a food pantry and/or garden plots for the campus community’s use; and
• Mandate programs that provide a holistic introduction to sustainability for first year students, new staff, faculty and administrators, which addresses oppression of both people and the planet.

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Approved by:
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Signature: ___________________________ Date: ____________

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