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5 **RESOLUTION AGAINST STATE PREEMPTION OF REGULATION OF**
6 **FIREARMS ON UW CAMPUSES**
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10 **WHEREAS**, the Legislature of the State of Wyoming has considered and likely will consider
11 again bills that would allow conceal-carry permit holders, including administrators, staff,
12 faculty, students and visitors, the right to open- or conceal- carry firearms to any school,
13 college or professional athletic event conducted on public property, preempting UW
14 Regulation 2-178 Section 3(g)(ix) regarding firearms on the University of Wyoming
15 campuses;

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17 **AND WHEREAS**, although the legislation is in spirit with the tenets of self-protection
18 respected in the State of Wyoming, there are many aspects of a university setting that are
19 not conducive to students, educators and visitors carrying firearms. These include, but are
20 not limited to:

- 21 • Firearms in the classroom will unavoidably be perceived as a threat of violence by many
22 students and educators,
- 23 • UW facilities include the Early Care and Education Center educating children between 3
24 months to 5 years of age and the UW Lab School educating students in grades K-8, both
25 of which are subject to both the 1990 Gun-Free School Zones Act (18 U.S.C. § 922) and
26 the 1994 Gun-Free Schools Act (20 U.S.C. §7151),
- 27 • The dynamics of college life include tremendous stress, social obstacles, alcohol and
28 drug abuse, and other questionable behavior and these dynamics can have potentially
29 lethal consequences when firearms are readily available,
- 30 • The availability of firearms could have an adverse effect on the student suicide rate, and
31 suicide rates are already higher in Wyoming than in any other state, and
- 32 • The presence of firearms at the university means there is a chance of accidental
33 discharge or misuse of the firearm by the carrier or another student, employee, or
34 visitor;

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36 **AND WHEREAS**, the Faculty Senate acknowledges the need and right for a safe academic
37 environment, but believes the above risks associated with armed students and educators
38 greatly outweigh the deterrence benefits from the small chance that firearm carriers could
39 prevent a tragedy;

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41 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Faculty Senate of the University of Wyoming strongly
42 encourages the state to consider carefully in future deliberations all consequences, both
43 intended and unintended, of allowing firearms on campuses and uphold firearms-free
44 campuses.