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6 **RESOLUTION AGAINST STATE OF WYOMING HOUSE BILL 105 *CITIZENS' AND***
7 ***STUDENTS' SELF-DEFENSE ACT AND HOUSE BILL 103 REGULATION OF***
8 ***FIREARMS-STATE PREEMPTION***
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11 **WHEREAS**, the Legislature of the State of Wyoming is considering passage of HB105 *Citizens'*
12 *and Students' Self-Defense Act* that would allow conceal-carry permit holders, including
13 administrators, staff, faculty, students and visitors, the right to open- or conceal-carry firearms to
14 "Any school, college or professional athletic event conducted on public property" (6-8-105(i))
15 and HB 103 *Regulation of Firearms-State Preemption* which would specifically prohibit the
16 regulation of firearms by the University of Wyoming (6-8-401);
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18 **AND WHEREAS**, although the legislation is in spirit with the tenets of self-protection respected
19 in the State of Wyoming, there are many aspects of a university setting that are not conducive to
20 students, educators and visitors carrying firearms. These include, but are not limited to:
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22 Firearms in the classroom will unavoidably be perceived as a threat of violence by many
23 students and educators,

24 UW facilities include those used for pre-school childcare, an elementary school, and a junior
25 high school that are not considered under 6-8-105(b),

26 The dynamics of college life include tremendous stress, social obstacles, alcohol and drug
27 abuse, and other questionable behavior and these dynamics can have potentially lethal
28 consequences when firearms are readily available,

29 The availability of firearms could have an adverse effect on the student suicide rate, and
30 suicide rates are already higher in Wyoming than in any other state, and

31 The presence of firearms at the university means there is a chance of accidental discharge or
32 misuse of the firearm by the carrier or another student, employee, or visitor;

33 **AND WHEREAS**, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee acknowledges the need and right
34 for a safe academic environment, the Executive Committee believes the above risks associated
35 with armed students and educators greatly outweigh the deterrence benefits from the small
36 chance that firearm carriers could prevent a tragedy;
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38 **AND WHEREAS**, UW is responsible for the safety of students, employees and visitors, UW has
39 regulations and a carefully developed and well-practiced emergency response plan that is
40 designed to save and protect lives, and UW student ranking for personal safety and campus
41 security at UW is among the highest in the nation; therefore

42 **BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate of the University of
43 Wyoming strongly encourages the state not to approve HB105 and HB103 as currently written
44 and to consider carefully in future deliberations all consequences, both intended and unintended,
45 of allowing firearms on campuses.

AUTHENTICATION: *The foregoing Faculty Senate Resolution 319, duly adopted by the Faculty Senate of the University of Wyoming under date of February 25, 2013, is hereby transmitted to the President of the University of Wyoming for review in accordance with UW Regulations.*

*/s/
Tucker Readdy
Secretary of the Faculty Senate*