



RESOLUTION

A resolution by the Louisiana Municipal Association urging recognition of the importance of postsecondary education as an economic engine for the municipalities of Louisiana and urging the Louisiana Legislature to provide adequate and stable funding to Louisiana's public postsecondary system.

WHEREAS it is appropriate to recognize the significant contributions made by Louisiana's public postsecondary institutions to the State's economic prosperity through development of a skilled, educated citizenry and strategic investments in targeted research;

WHEREAS postsecondary institutions generate thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in direct and indirect economic impact in municipalities across Louisiana;

WHEREAS postsecondary graduates pay taxes and contribute to the social and economic vitality of their communities, which creates an incentive for businesses to relocate to each community;

WHEREAS citizens with a postsecondary credential are more likely to experience higher lifetime earnings, have health insurance, contribute to retirement programs, participate in civic engagement, pay more taxes, and rely less on public assistance programs, thus freeing resources for other public services;

WHEREAS over the last decade Louisiana higher education has experienced one of the largest reductions in state support in the nation, which has resulted in colleges and universities being primarily funded by student tuition rather than state dollars. Because students fund universities more than the state, it is time to move beyond the debate on whether to close or merge institutions; and

WHEREAS the Louisiana Municipal Association understands the importance of postsecondary education as an economic engine for the municipalities of Louisiana, positively impacting earnings potential and producing an educated citizenry; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Louisiana Municipal Association:

- (1) does hereby urge legislators to provide adequate and stable funding to Louisiana's public postsecondary system; and
- (2) orders that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Louisiana's congressional and state legislative delegations, the Honorable John Bel Edwards, Governor of Louisiana, and the Honorable William "Billy" Nungesser, Lieutenant Governor of Louisiana.

Thus done on the 27th day of February, 2018.


JOHN A. GALLAGHER
Executive Director


LAWRENCE HENAGAN
President