**Florida State University**

**National Alumni Association Board**

WHEREAS, Florida State University was created by the Florida Legislature in 1851 to provide the highest quality education to the students of Florida, and

WHEREAS, Florida State University’s campus is the oldest, continuous site of higher education in Florida, producing the state’s first Rhodes Scholar in 1905 and first chapter of Phi Beta Kappa in 1933, and

WHEREAS, the mission of Florida State University is to: (1) retain and graduate the best and brightest students and ensure that they have excellent job placement and (2) promote innovation and economic development, attract industry partnerships and external funding to the State, and create new technologies, and

WHEREAS, according to *US News and World Report*, FSU is currently ranked #42 among publics, and #97 among all universities. FSU has gained 12 places in quality since 2008. In contrast, over the same time period, the university has dropped 5 places to #212 in financial resources, and

WHEREAS, *US News and World Report* named Florida State University the “Most Efficient” university in the nation for achieving its high quality ranking despite having the low level of financial resources, and

WHEREAS, the FSU Alumni Association commissioned a scientific survey of its graduates that revealed maintaining the value of their FSU degree as their highest priority, and

WHEREAS, Florida State University proposes to become a National Top 25 Public University and to become a State and National leader in Student Career Readiness and Job Placement, and

WHEREAS, the national rankings are highly dependent on investment in STEM fields, FSU is poised to be a national leader in STEM and an even greater force for the State of Florida, and

WHEREAS, Florida State University is undertaking a campus-wide initiative to become a leading entrepreneurial university and to dramatically change the landscape in career readiness for our students, and

WHEREAS, Florida State University is embarking on revisions to our curriculum in order to meet the rapid socioeconomic and technological changes that impact critical thinking, problem solving, communication, collaboration, creativity and innovation skills that are integral to businesses, industry and student success, and

WHEREAS, Florida State University has an on-going, concerted effort to increase retention and graduation rates with our freshman retention rates now ranked as #23rd among all publics and our graduation rates increasing significantly, and

WHEREAS, Florida’s elected leaders have endorsed plans and proposed funding to elevate the national standing of state institutions of higher education.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Florida State University National Alumni Board on behalf of the 300,000 FSU alumni worldwide hereby endorses the university’s goal to become a preeminent, Top 25 public university, and urges the state’s elected leaders to provide financial resources needed to attain this worthy objective.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution, with the seal of the Alumni Association affixed, be presented to the President of the Florida Senate and the Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives as a tangible token of the sentiment of the Florida State University Alumni Association.

 Chairman

 President

 Executive Committee Member

 Executive Committee Member

 Executive Committee Member

 Executive Committee Member

 Executive Committee Member