



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO: Members of the Executive Committee**

**FROM: Marc J. Cohen, Senior Director of External Relations**

**DATE: March 14, 2015**

**SUBJECT: Resolution in Support of a Renewal for the Five-Year Tuition Plan for the State University of New York**

I recommend that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York (SUNYSA) adopt the following resolution:

Whereas, the mission of the Student Assembly of the State University of New York is to advocate for students, and

Whereas, The State University of New York (SUNY) is the largest comprehensive university system in the United States, educating more than 460,000 students in more than 7,250 degree and certificate programs on 64 campuses with more than 2.9 million alumni around the globe; and

Whereas, SUNY has the potential to create unprecedented opportunities not just for college students and their families, but for faculty and staff, businesses and industry, and the workforce of the State of New York and beyond; and

Whereas, SUNY boasts a nationally competitive tuition rate, amongst the lowest in the nation; and

Whereas, the means by which tuition increases occurred prior to the implementation of a rational tuition program were unpredictable and often extreme, at times being 36% in a single year; and

Whereas, a five-year tuition plan that is fair, equitable, and responsible, and keeps tuition revenues within the respective SUNY campus has provided students and their families the ability to plan ahead; and

Whereas, such a plan has allowed SUNY campuses the benefit of predicting revenue which has in turn led to improved academic programs, increases in aid, and additional faculty, in addition to several other benefits; and

Whereas, it is clear that the past, present, and future of New York State is tied to its State University; and

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for the State University of New York**

Whereas, SUNY must have, and be able to provide, fiscal stability and affordability to carry out its responsibility to the students; and now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York hereby reinforces the importance of a rational tuition plan for SUNY that would:

- 1) be fair, equitable and responsible;
- 2) keep tuition revenues within the respective campuses;
- 3) provide students and their families the ability to adequately plan ahead;
- 4) provide the SUNY campuses with predictable revenue; and , be it further

Resolved, that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York support the continuation of state taxpayer support of maintenance of effort, with the addition of annual reflection of HEPI;

Resolved, that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York encourages each student government to advocate to the State Legislature in support of this proposal and encourage its passage into law, and

Resolved, that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York requests that the SUNY Board of Trustees refrain from consistently raising tuition to its maximum threshold as they have for the past four consecutive years under rational tuition; and , finally be it

Resolved, that the Student Assembly of the State University of New York shall forward copies of this Resolution to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, Lt. Governor Kathleen C. Hochul, the members of the New York State Legislature, the SUNY Board of Trustees, SUNY Chancellor Zimpher, University Faculty Senate, Faculty Council of Community Colleges, SUNY Campus Presidents, SUNY student governing bodies, and all other parties deemed necessary and proper.