

**A RESOLUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KENTUCKY, RECOMMENDING THE KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY REJECT GOVERNOR MATT BEVIN'S HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING CUTS IN THE PROPOSED 2016-2018 BUDGET.**

**WHEREAS:** Governor Matt Bevin's proposed 2016-2018 biennial budget cuts allocations by \$76 million for all public universities and community colleges in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and

**WHEREAS:** Students from all over the Commonwealth of Kentucky have expressed disfavor for these budget cuts, including students who organized a march on February 25<sup>th</sup>, and

**WHEREAS:** In a report by the U.S. Department of Education, Kentucky has had a net decrease of spending reaching 27.6% per student since the 2008 recession, being one of only three states in the country continuing cuts to higher education, and

**WHEREAS:** Ashley Spalding of The Kentucky Center for Economic Policy wrote in 2016: "New data shows that Kentuckians leaving college with student loan debt have among the highest default rates in the country, a problem stemming in part from the rising cost of college due to declining state and federal funding," and

**WHEREAS:** Kentucky's rising student debt has left Kentucky 4.5% above the national default average and ranking third overall. Furthermore, in 2014 Kentucky ranked first, and

**WHEREAS:** In 2013, Georgetown University released a study claiming that two thirds of all jobs will soon require a college degree. Investing in higher education is a smart choice that can help facilitate long-term economic benefits for the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, ON THIS FOURTH DAY OF APRIL 2016, THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KENTUCKY, RECOMMENDS THE KENTUCKY GENERAL ASSEMBLY REJECT GOVERNOR MATT BEVIN'S HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING CUTS IN THE PROPOSED 2016-2018 BUDGET.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Katherine M. Hahnel, President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Bradley Blankenship, Senator

