A RESOLUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KENTUCKY, REQUESTING THE CREATION OF AN EMERGENCY FUND TO CREATE BETTER ACCESS AND IMPROVE RETENTION

WHEREAS: NKU currently does not have a non-NKU related financial emergency fund for students, and

WHEREAS: The University of Louisville currently has the Louis and Louise W. Weisser Bornwasser Student Emergency Fund that was created to assist University of Louisville students who encounter an unforeseen financial emergency or catastrophic events which would otherwise prevent them from continuing their education at the University of Louisville, and

WHEREAS: Indiana State University currently has the Michael Phillips fund that is a resource for not only its students but also dependents of the student. It was established to promote students security and academic survival and continues to do so, and

WHEREAS: Their goals are to help students during a time of need stay in school and make progress towards a degree. Students concerned about meeting basic monetary needs due to emergencies will have difficulty focusing in courses and completing work. This would allow for a safety net in these cases, and

WHEREAS: Priority will be given to students whose career at NKU may be at risk because of unexpected expenses. This funding is not intended to replace or supplement existing financial aid and does not have to be repaid, and

WHEREAS: The implementation of an emergency fund at NKU could include the following types of expenses, but is not limited to: medications and other costs related to medical care, books and other essential academic expenses, safety needs (i.e. changing a lock), assistance with replacement of essential personal belongings due to fire, theft, or natural disaster, travel costs related to a death or illness in the immediate family, and assistance with rent, utilities, food and other essential household expenses, and

WHEREAS: The application and method of selection for students to receive this grant will be left up to the University, but the students should exhibit need for it, and

WHEREAS: Arnie Slaughter, Assistant Vice President for Student Engagement & Dean of Students, said "An emergency fund could assist in providing students with a way to alleviate unexpected financial challenges beyond standard tuition and fees. The fund could also assist in reducing external stressors that may distract the student from being able to focus on academics and engaging in student life on our campus," and

WHEREAS: Dr. Ryan Padgett, Assistant Vice President of Enrollment and Student Success, said "To help keep students' focused on their coursework and career preparations, this resolution will provide timely support to those who have an unexpected financial emergency. Access to these funds will provide students comfort and safety

knowing that an emergency expense will not derail them from successfully completing their degree. This is another valuable resource in ensuring the support of all NKU students," and

WHEREAS: Alex Voland, a former SGA Student Senator, said this resolution shows that NKU cares, "... about not only students' educational needs, but their personal needs and welfare. Doing this is a step in the right direction...", and

WHEREAS: NKU could allocate funds into the pool for the grant, to be supplemented by Impact NKU campaigns. This program would be similar to the Murray State University Dunker's Challenge Student Education Emergency fund.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, ON THIS FIFTEENTH DAY OF APRIL2019 THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY REQUESTS THE CREATION OF AN EMERGENCY FUND TO CREATE BETTER ACCESS AND IMPROVE RETENTION.

Signed

Mannah Maria Edelen, President

Attest/

Rebecca L. Noel, Senator

## ASSOCIATION