

## **A Resolution in Support of State Budget Flexibilities**

**WHEREAS**, the University of Louisiana System is the largest public postsecondary educational system in the state with over 83,000 students enrolled at eight regional, comprehensive universities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System strives to promote access and support for postsecondary education opportunities through its universities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System assists institutions within the System by facilitating the accomplishments of their respective missions through sound accountability and management practices; and

**WHEREAS**, state general fund support for public postsecondary education has been reduced by over \$500 million since Fiscal Year 2007-2008; and

**WHEREAS**, given the anticipated decline in the availability of state support accompanied by the impending loss of federal fiscal support in Fiscal Year 2011-2012 and thereafter; and

**WHEREAS**, statutorily dedicated funds serve to reduce the amount of discretionary funds available when dealing with budget reductions, disproportionately impacting higher education and health care; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System recognizes that there needs to be greater flexibility in the state's budget process when dealing with budget deficits; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 21, 2011 on the University of Louisiana at Lafayette campus Governor Bobby Jindal announced three reform initiatives to be considered in the 2011 Regular Session of the Legislature that would provide a wider array of budgetary alternatives; and

**WHEREAS**, these initiatives would increase the authority to cut certain dedicated funds and allow for the reallocation of interest earnings generated by certain dedicated funds for the express purpose of deficit reductions and further, would require the sunset of all dedicated funds, with few exceptions;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System does hereby urge and request the Legislature of the State of Louisiana to support such efforts that provide expanded options when dealing with budgetary shortfalls that would result in a more equitable allocation of available state resources.

Thus signed this twenty-fifth day of February, 2011.



Winfred Sibille, Chair of the Board of Supervisors  
for the University of Louisiana System