

RESOLUTION HOUSE BILL 194

WHEREAS, higher education is critical to the state's economic growth, workforce development, and to the social and financial well-being of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the FY 2013-14 Executive Budget will reduce higher education's general fund dollars from \$1.42 billion in 2008 (excluding TOPS) to \$229.3 million for FY 2013-14 or a total reduction of \$1.24 billion (-84.5%); and

WHEREAS, a significant portion of state revenue sources budgeted to higher education may or may not be available for FY 2013-14; and

WHEREAS, if these funds do not materialize, the budget for higher education would be reduced accordingly, up to a 19% reduction; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana students have historically enjoyed low tuition compared to their counterparts in other states in the region; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana is one of only three states whose legislature has some control over tuition and the only state that requires legislative approval by two-thirds vote for tuition increases; and

WHEREAS, House Bill 194 of the 2013 Regular Session of the Legislature would authorize management boards to set tuition at their institutions pursuant to the Board of Regents' Tuition and Fee Policy; and

WHEREAS, management boards are in the best position to assess the need for increased tuition at any of their member institutions; and

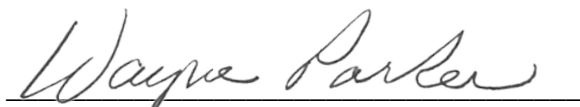
WHEREAS, House Bill 194 allows management boards to make decisions that are fair and market-sensitive; and

WHEREAS, the authority to increase tuition is permissive and may be applied selectively; and

WHEREAS, this bill will provide some relief for the deficit in funding for Louisiana's public institutions of higher education.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System urges and requests the Legislature to consider these facts as they debate House Bill 194.

Thus enacted on the 30th day of April, 2013, by unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System.



D. WAYNE PARKER, CHAIR
Board of Supervisors for the
University of Louisiana System