BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM
A Resolution

WHEREAS, on Thursday, May 7, 2009, The Shaw Group, Inc. announced that it will decline $172.5 million in incentive payments from the State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman of The Shaw Group, Inc., Jim Bernhard, Jr., indicated that the manufacturing plant in Lake Charles and the company headquarters expansion in Baton Rouge, the impetus for the incentive payments, would continue without the payments; and

WHEREAS, The Shaw Group, Inc., is declining the funds because of the financial restraints the state faces and hopes instead to see the funds spent on higher education and other state needs; and

WHEREAS, the projected budget shortfall in higher education of $219 million portent crippling cuts to the critical enterprise of the state's colleges and universities.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System extends its appreciation and gratitude to The Shaw Group, Inc., its chairman, Jim Bernhard, Jr., and its Board of Directors for the civic-minded action that demonstrates the value business and industry place on higher education in the State of Louisiana; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System hopes the actions of The Shaw Group, Inc. will set an example for others to follow, as the future vitality of our state rests in the education of its citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System do hereby urge and request the Governor and Legislature of the State of Louisiana to act favorably on The Shaw Group, Inc. request to consider using monies from the Rainy Day Fund, the Economic Development Mega Fund, and other funding sources to restore all cuts to higher education, as we believe there is no better investment in economic development for Louisiana.

Signed this eighth day of May, 2009

Mrs. Elsie Burkhalter, Chair
Board of Supervisors for the University of Louisiana System

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

Dr. Randy Moffett, President
University of Louisiana System
and Secretary to the Board