



January 16, 2014

The Honorable Bobby Jindal
Governor
State of Louisiana
State Capitol, 4th Floor
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Dear Governor Jindal:

On behalf of Louisiana's public institutions of higher education, we seek your support of the *Workforce and Innovation for a Stronger Economy (WISE) Plan*. The *WISE Plan* is a joint collaboration with the Office of Louisiana Economic Development, the Louisiana Workforce Commission, the Louisiana Board of Regents, the University of Louisiana System, the Louisiana State University System, the Southern University System, and the Louisiana Community and Technical College System. Working together, we have developed a performance driven, outcomes based plan that will enhance our academic strengths, advance new graduates, develop new technologies and allow industries to grow and prosper in every parish in our state.

The *WISE Plan* is specifically targeted to advance Louisiana to national competitiveness. This plan seeks to strategically align new investments in higher education with the workforce needs of the exciting and emerging growth sectors in our economy. The *WISE Plan* also seeks a stronger partnership with Louisiana's business and industry leaders through an industry matching program that will spur private investment in public universities and colleges statewide.

We seek your support of at least \$40 million in new investments in a *Workforce and Innovation for a Stronger Economy (WISE) Fund*, replacing the one-time operations and deferred maintenance support appropriated in the 2013 Regular Session. We realize that this is much to ask considering the recent revenue projection, but believe this investment will ultimately raise economic activity in the long-term. The *WISE Plan* would:

- ✓ Maintain current level of state support for all public institutions of higher education
- ✓ Ensure tuition revenues are retained at each institution for reinvestment in academic and student support

- ✓ Establish a performance based investment fund to meet the state's goals in high need, high growth and high demand job areas
- ✓ Provide a base level adequacy of funding formula implementation and foundational support so all institutions can participate
- ✓ Support research innovation and creativity that advances the economic and societal well-being of all Louisianans
- ✓ Spur private investment in the state's public universities and colleges

This initiative is critical if we are to take advantage of Louisiana's national recognition as a leader in economic growth. We urge your support of the *Workforce and Innovation for a Stronger Economy (WISE) Plan*.

Sincerely,



Sandra K. Woodley
President
University of Louisiana System



E. Gerald "T-Boy" Hebert
Chairman
University of Louisiana System



F. King Alexander
President
Louisiana State University System



Robert "Bobby" Yarborough
Chairman
Louisiana State University System



Ronald Mason, Jr.
President
Southern University System



Bridget A. Dinvaut
Chairwoman
Southern University System



Joe D. May
President
Louisiana Community
& Technical College System



Michael Murphy
Chairman
Louisiana Community
& Technical College System



Jim Purcell
Commissioner
Louisiana Board of Regents



W. Clinton "Bubba" Rasberry, Jr.
Chairman
Louisiana Board of Regents



UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank Pogue".

Frank Pogue, President
Grambling State University

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leslie K. Guice".

Leslie Guice, President
Louisiana Tech University

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Philip Williams".

Philip Williams, President
McNeese State University

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Murphy".

Bruce Murphy, President
Nicholls State University

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randall Webb".

Randall Webb, President
Northwestern State University

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Crain".

John Crain, President
Southeastern Louisiana University

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "E. Joseph Savoie".

E. Joseph Savoie, President
University of Louisiana at Lafayette

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nick Bruno".

Nick Bruno, President
University of Louisiana at Monroe

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Peter Fos".

Peter Fos, President
University of New Orleans



LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Handwritten signature of F. King Alexander in black ink.

F. King Alexander
President
Louisiana State University System

Handwritten signature of Paul Sisson in black ink.

Paul Sisson
Interim Chancellor
Louisiana State University at Shreveport

Handwritten signature of Robert Barish in black ink.

Robert Barish
Chancellor
LSU Health Science Center – Shreveport

Handwritten signature of William Nunez in black ink.

William Nunez
Chancellor
Louisiana State University at Eunice

Handwritten signature of William T. Cefalu in black ink.

William Cefalu
Executive Director
LSU Pennington Biomedical Research Center

Handwritten signature of William B. Richardson in black ink.

William Richardson
Vice President of Agriculture
LSU AgCenter

Handwritten signature of Paul Coreil in black ink.

Paul Coreil
Interim Chancellor
Louisiana State University at Alexandria

Handwritten signature of Jack M. Weiss in black ink.

Jack Weiss
Chancellor
LSU Paul M. Hebert Law Center

Handwritten signature of Larry Hollier in black ink.

Larry Hollier
Chancellor
LSU Health Science Center – New Orleans



SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James L. Llorens".

James L. Llorens, Chancellor
Southern University and A&M College

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Freddie Pitcher".

Freddie Pitcher, Chancellor
Southern University Law Center

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Victor Ukpolo".

Victor Ukpolo, Chancellor
Southern University at New Orleans

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ray Belton".

Ray Belton, Chancellor
Southern University at Shreveport



LOUISIANA COMMUNITY & TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

A blue ink signature of Andrea Lewis Miller, consisting of a large 'A' followed by a cursive 'L' and 'M'.

Andrea Lewis Miller, Chancellor
Baton Rouge Community College

A blue ink signature of Jim Henderson, featuring a large 'J' and 'H'.

Jim Henderson, Chancellor
Bossier Parish Community College

A blue ink signature of Rodney Ellis, with a large 'R' and 'E'.

Rodney Ellis, Chancellor
Central Louisiana Technical Community College

A blue ink signature of Monty Sullivan, with a large 'M' and 'S'.

Monty Sullivan, Chancellor
Delgado Community College

A blue ink signature of Thomas Warner, with a large 'T' and 'W'.

Thomas Warner, Chancellor
Elaine P. Nunez Community College

A blue ink signature of Travis Lavigne, with a large 'T' and 'L'.

Travis Lavigne, Chancellor
L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College

A blue ink signature of Barbara Hanson, with a large 'B' and 'H'.

Barbara Hanson, Chancellor
Louisiana Delta Community College

A blue ink signature of William B. Wainwright, with a large 'W' and 'W'.

William B. Wainwright, Chancellor
Northshore Technical Community College

A blue ink signature of Richard Bateman, with a large 'R' and 'B'.

Richard Bateman, Interim Director
Northwest Louisiana Technical College

A blue ink signature of Dale Doty, with a large 'D' and 'D'.

Dale Doty, Chancellor
River Parishes Community College

A blue ink signature of Earl Meador, with a large 'E' and 'M'.

Earl Meador, Director
South Central Louisiana Technical College

A blue ink signature of Natalie Harder, with a large 'N' and 'H'.

Natalie Harder, Chancellor
South Louisiana Community College

A blue ink signature of Neil Aspinwall, with a large 'N' and 'A'.

Neil Aspinwall, Chancellor
SOWELA Technical Community College

cc: Mr. Chuck Kleckley, Speaker, Louisiana House of Representatives
Mr. Walt Leger III, Speaker Pro Tem, Louisiana House of Representatives
Mr. Jim Fannin, Chairman of Appropriations, Louisiana House of Representatives
Mr. Stephen Carter, Chairman of Education, Louisiana House of Representatives
Mr. John Alario, President, Louisiana Senate
Ms. Sharon Weston Broome, President Pro Tem
Mr. Jack Donahue, Chair of Finance, Louisiana State Senate
Mr. Conrad Appel, Chair of Education, Louisiana State Senate
Members of the Board of the University of Louisiana State University System
Members of the Board of the Louisiana State University System
Members of the Board of the Southern University System
Members of the Board of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System
Members of the Louisiana Board of Regents