

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, cumulative state fund budget reductions at a time of increasing enrollment have presented a difficult challenge in preserving educational quality while meeting student needs;

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents and University System institutions have managed over \$1.4 billion in state fund reductions through eliminating staff and faculty positions, freezing and delaying hiring, reducing course offerings/program expansion efforts, increasing class size, and decreasing services such as student advising; increasing efficiencies, decreasing operating and travel expenditures, increasing deferred maintenance/decline in campus maintenance, reducing library holdings and requiring faculty and staff to take six furlough days;

WHEREAS, budget reductions in Fiscal Year 2009 resulted in the Board of Regents approving a temporary Special Institutional Fee for spring semester 2009;

WHEREAS, additional budget reductions in Fiscal Year 2010, Fiscal Year 2011 and Fiscal Year 2012 required the continuance of the Special Institutional Fee to maintain quality, offer courses for students to meet graduation requirements, meet increased enrollment demand and increased workload;

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2012 budget did not include additional funding formula of \$145 million to recognize the growth in students and was essentially an additional budget reduction, thus leading to an increase in the Special Institutional Fee to offset the impact on quality and course offerings;

WHEREAS, the Fiscal Year 2013 budget provides a net increase in state funding but does not provide funding sufficient to allow for the termination of the Special Institutional Fee and the loss of \$210 million in revenue without adverse impact on students and institutions;

WHEREAS, the minutes of the Board of Regents meeting from April 2011 reflect a sunset date of June 30, 2012 for the Special Institutional Fee;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF REGENTS that the Special Institutional Fee shall continue for Fiscal Year 2013;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board shall designate the Special Institutional Fee as a mandatory fee applying to all students except those specifically exempted in this resolution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Special Institutional Fee shall be exempt or reduced for the following: A) Exempt all active duty military students; B) Reduce the Special Institutional Fee by 50 percent for all students taking less than 5 credit hours; C) Exempt dual enrolled students; D) Exemption for cross-registered students at multiple institutions who pay the Special Institutional Fee at the home institution only; and E) Exempt students who typically do not pay fees such as senior citizens;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Special Institutional Fee will be considered as continuing, and will be re-evaluated annually as part of the Board's normal review of tuition and fees.