



**Resolution to Support Alaskans' Educational Success and Contribution  
to a Healthy Alaska Economy**

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Legislature established in law the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education to effect planning for higher education and administer family financial assistance and consumer protection programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Legislature has determined as essential to sustaining the ongoing economic health and well-being of the state and its citizens and families for the state to efficiently deliver programs that make postsecondary educational opportunities more accessible to Alaska citizens; and

**WHEREAS**, a key priority for the Administration of Governor Michael J. Dunleavy is a robust open-for-business Alaska economy where residents are prepared to compete in a dynamic Alaska job market; and

**WHEREAS**, the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimates that roughly 65% of Alaska's fastest-growing, high-wage jobs will require some form of postsecondary credential by 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, current data reflect a shortfall of over 20,000 workers with the training and education needed to fill top Alaska jobs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission, funded by the Alaska Student Loan Corporation, is guided by its mission to promote access to and success in education and career training beyond high school; and

**WHEREAS**, the Commission recognizes the increasing importance of efficiently and effectively leveraging college and career training, as Alaska pursues economic growth while facing significant budget constraints.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION reaffirms its commitment to support Alaska's college and career training students and institutions, by providing information, planning, financial aid and education consumer protection resources; and by offering Alaska's policy-makers research and analysis tools to inform efficient and effective progress towards individual citizen and collective economic success through college and career training. The Commission urges that the Legislature reinstate WWAMI funding, and scholarship and grant funds for FY2020, and reinstate the Alaska Higher Education Investment Fund to ensure ongoing access to essential state financial aid. The Commission further invites and encourages policy-makers, business leadership and all stakeholders in the Alaska education system and larger economy to join us in developing strategic plans and communication campaigns to ensure quality higher education is supported and remains accessible to Alaska's students.

ADOPTED July 23, 2019