A RESOLUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KENTUCKY, REQUESTING THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FUND KENTUCKY PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS THROUGH AN OUTCOMES-BASED FORMULA.

WHEREAS: In 1985, the state funded 68 percent of the cost of Northern Kentucky University (NKU) students' education and the students funded only 32 percent, and

WHEREAS: Today, NKU students are responsible for funding 75 percent of their education, and the state has decreased its funding to only 25 percent, and

WHEREAS: NKU would need another $16 million annually to equal the same funding per student that the other regional, comprehensive Kentucky public institutions receive, and

WHEREAS: The General Assembly has continued to appropriate the lowest state share in public funds to NKU as compared to Kentucky's other public universities, and

WHEREAS: Senate Bill 2 from the 2013 General Assembly session increased NKU's employer contribution to the Kentucky Educational Retirement System (KERS) by nearly $5 million, and

WHEREAS: This is the equivalent of a 5 percent tuition increase for NKU students (over $200 per student) with no additional educational return on investment (ROI), and

WHEREAS: According to a Northern Kentucky University press release, AffordableCollegesOnline.org recognized Northern Kentucky University, "as having the greatest lifetime return on investment among Kentucky’s colleges and universities," with a ROI of $583,000, and

WHEREAS: If the state funded Kentucky public institutions through an outcomes-based formula, NKU would be able to further improve the ROI and other benefits of attending the University, and

WHEREAS: When students receive a quality education through a properly funded state university, graduate, and become employed, the benefits impact the entire Commonwealth of Kentucky.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, ON THIS TWENTY-FOURTH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2014, THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KENTUCKY, REQUESTS THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FUND KENTUCKY PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS THROUGH AN OUTCOMES-BASED FORMULA.

Signed:
Erik Pederson, President

Attest:
Elizabeth Ruwe, Senator
Tye Stevens, Senator