



# STATE OF WASHINGTON STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES RESOLUTION 19-03-15

A resolution relating to the need for a dedicated revenue source for higher education in Washington state.

**WHEREAS**, the people of Washington need education past high school to secure well-paying jobs in today's economy; and

**WHEREAS**, Students of all ages and backgrounds can find career pathways to today's jobs at local community and technical colleges, whether it means entering the workforce directly or going to a university first for more study in their fields; and

**WHEREAS**, Washington state has set a goal that by 2023 70 percent of Washington adults ages 25-44 will have a postsecondary credential and 100 percent will have a high school diploma or equivalent; and

**WHEREAS**, community and technical colleges serve students at all levels, whether it means helping them earn a high school diploma, gain knowledge and skills to take college-level classes, or pursue certificates, degrees, and apprenticeships; and

**WHEREAS**, community and technical colleges are the gateway to higher education for students of color and students who are first in their families to go to college; and

**WHEREAS**, funding for K-12 schools is protected by the state constitution and legal mandates but higher education institutions – the next step for students – has no such protection; and

**WHEREAS**, this lack of funding protection often leads to steep budget cuts or stagnant funding when the state faces a revenue shortfall; and

**WHEREAS**, budget concerns at community and technical colleges result in cuts to the classes, programs and services students need to succeed in school and in careers; and

**WHEREAS**, the rise or fall of Washington's students, families, communities and economy is directly tied to the availability of financial aid and the financial strength of colleges and universities; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges endorses the creation of a dedicated revenue source that provides stable funding for college students and their higher education institutions.

**APPROVED AND ADPOTED** on 3/28/2019

Attest

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Jan Yoshiwara, Secretary

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Anne Fennessy, Chair