

# Public Higher Education Resolution

## TO ADDRESS FEDERAL ATTACKS & FUNDING CUTS

- **Whereas, community colleges**, state universities and UMass play an integral role in fostering the public good in Massachusetts;
- **Whereas, public colleges and universities** provide the education and career training to allow for social and economic mobility necessary for creating greater equality among our residents;
- **Whereas, public colleges and universities across the state** are major employers, and the students attending public colleges and universities generate significant economic activity;
- **Whereas, public education** provides a highly trained and highly educated workforce for businesses and industries based in Massachusetts;
- **Whereas, public colleges and universities in Massachusetts** are conducting research and studies that benefit people all around the world;
- **Whereas, public colleges and universities** have a responsibility to ensure costs to students are not prohibitive or do not require going into debilitating debt;
- **Whereas, public colleges and universities** are experiencing severe disruptions in funding as federal grants that pay for research that benefits society and supports academic pursuits are being paused and canceled;
- **Whereas, the federal budget under consideration** is proposing severe reductions in funding for Pell Grants that students can use to pay for college;
- **Whereas, Massachusetts voters** approved the Fair Share surtax on income above \$1 million to generate revenue specifically for public education and transportation;
- **Be it resolved** that (this board) voices its support for Massachusetts' community colleges, state universities and UMass;
- **Be it resolved** that (this board) urges the state Legislature to set aside \$200 million from the more than \$2 billion generated by Fair Share as a first step toward stabilizing public higher education funding that supports students, faculty and staff;
- **Be it resolved** that (this board) urges the state Legislature and governor to strategically increase funding for public colleges and universities to lessen their reliance on grants, privatization and student tuition and fees;
- **Be it resolved** that (this board) supports Massachusetts having public colleges and universities that students can attend without incurring debt and that provide the salaries and benefits necessary to retain and attract the faculty and staff needed to maintain the quality of education our state deserves.

FOR MORE INFORMATION  
[Grassroots@massteacher.org](mailto:Grassroots@massteacher.org).



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