

RESOLUTION OF THE  
SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

WHEREAS, it is the position of the Commission on Higher Education that the public universities and colleges of South Carolina should be properly funded if we are to achieve a level of academic excellence in our institutions which will enable us to compete with the region and the nation in educational and economic development;

WHEREAS, our scientific and logical method for measuring that level of funding is the Appropriation Formula which prescribes budgets based on comparable or "peer" institutions in other states of the Southeast;

WHEREAS, while we aspire to compete with national levels of funding, our first goal is to achieve parity with the region. Full formula funding will move us toward such an achievement;

WHEREAS, the Commission's recommendations for State appropriations, based on our formula, include only the minimum levels of State support necessary for each of the public institutions if each is to fulfill its prescribed mission within the State system of higher education. Our recommendations take into account different amounts of such basic support for each institution depending on the mission of each institution and its programs which support that mission;

WHEREAS, the Commission in 1984 endorsed the Governor's commitment to improve the quality of education in South Carolina by his initiatives in elementary and secondary education and his support of full formula funding of higher education, and with the public colleges and universities strongly supported and urged the passage of the Education Improvement Act of 1984;

WHEREAS, the 1984 General Assembly provided full formula funding for the public colleges and universities for 1984-85;

WHEREAS, the 1985-86 Appropriation Bill as passed by the House of Representatives provides only 95.5% of full formula funding for recurring expenditures for continuing operations; and

WHEREAS, the House-passed Appropriation Bill also includes \$11.9 million for one-time non-recurring expenditures, interpreted incorrectly by some as part of formula funding thereby bringing the total in the Bill to 98.9% of full formula funding;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission respectfully requests the 1985 General Assembly to provide as recurring funds for continuing operations the total necessary to fund 100% of the recommendations based on the Appropriation Formula; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the 1985 General Assembly provide, in addition to full formula funding for continuing operations, non-recurring funds for 1985-86 totaling \$14.8 million for academic computing equipment, other instructional equipment, and deferred maintenance to assist the colleges and universities in alleviating deficiencies incurred due to less than full formula funding in recent years.

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