



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

Jan Yoshiwara, Secretary

Anne Fennessy, Chair