

## **RATIONALE:**

the State University of New York (SUNY) and the City University of New York (CUNY), like other public higher education systems across the nation, in fulfilling their core academic missions, transform students' lives and life chances and serve their state as foundations for democracy, platforms for civic engagement, engines of economic development, pathways to the middle class, magnets for population growth and private investment, and generators of health, creativity, and innovation<sup>1</sup>; and

the SUNY University Faculty Senate (SUNY UFS) has worked closely in recent years with the SUNY Faculty Council of Community Colleges (SUNY FCCC) and the CUNY University Faculty Senate (CUNY UFS) and has worked in alliance with the SUNY Student Assembly (SUNY SA) and United University Professions (UUP) in advocating for New York State to become a national leader in investing direct state aid in SUNY and CUNY's core operating budgets<sup>2</sup>;

## **RESOLUTION:**

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increasing the share of public funds going to public higher education core operating budgets and decreasing the share of SUNY and CUNY core operating costs paid for by student tuition and fees, through such means as

fully funding all negotiated contractual increases, starting with UUP's;

fully funding other mandatory operating cost increases;

pegging the maximum Tuition Assistance Program (TAP) award to SUNY tuition and sunsetting the SUNY/CUNY Supplemental TAP Awards, thereby closing the TAP Gap;

pegging the maximum Excelsior Scholarship award to SUNY tuition and simplifying eligibility requirements;

fully funding requests by the SUNY and CUNY Boards of Trustees for five-year capital plans addressing critical maintenance and new capital projects, as well as necessary accessibility upgrades to older buildings;

establishing a SUNY endowment.

that in 2020 SUNY UFS will expand and deepen its coordination with SUNY FCCC, CUNY UFS, SUNY SA, UUP, SUNY and CUNY campus governance bodies and union chapters, and all other good-faith partners by calling on all leaders and members of these organizations and friends of SUNY and CUNY, in their capacity as citizens or residents of New York and/or supporters of public higher education, to contact Governor Cuomo, their representatives in the New York State Legislature, and legislative leaders, and express their support of both their organization's advocacy priorities and those of SUNY UFS.

## **BACKGROUND:**



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Source: State Higher Education Executive Officers Association (SHEEO)

Note how the one measure in which New York State was close to being a true national leader-- state support per student FTE--plunged from FY17 to FY18.

2008	\$21,167	\$23,580	62%	\$18,026	56%
2009	\$22,522	\$25,590	63%	\$20,911	56%
2010	\$23,540	\$26,360	61%	\$21,706	

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