WHEREAS House Bill 1 (1997) created a public agenda for higher education to enhance economic opportunity and quality of life for all Kentuckians and mandated the comprehensive universities to be engaged partners culturally, economically, and educationally with the communities of their service regions,

WHEREAS Eastern Kentucky University has provided a well-educated citizenry and work force, has supported cultural and economic development, and has a record of community engagement that has been a transforming force for central, eastern and southeastern Kentucky,

WHEREAS Kentucky’s future capacity for greatness lies with an educated citizenry,

WHEREAS a strong system of higher education is inextricably linked to effective P-12 education through:
- enabling parents' educational attainment, thereby positioning them to help instill a commitment to lifelong learning in their children, and
- preparing and supplying qualified teachers for P-12 education, including meeting the demand for new teachers as seasoned educators retire,

WHEREAS the proposed cut to higher education will likely result in:
- raised tuition leading to increased financial burden for families,
- reduction in staff and faculty leading to higher ratios of students to faculty, and
- deferred maintenance resulting in higher repair costs and potential liabilities,

AND WHEREAS the proposed cut to higher education will further result in:
- fewer Kentuckians going to college,
- fewer Kentuckians graduating,
- fewer Kentuckians entering the workforce with university degrees,
- fewer opportunities for economic development, and
- a reduction in the quality of life for Kentuckians, thereby halting progress toward the reform goals of House Bill 1,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of Eastern Kentucky University urges the Honorable Steven Beshear, Governor, and members of the General Assembly to continue the investment in higher education by providing the necessary funds to achieve the goals of House Bill 1 and Bucks for Brains and not to retreat from the promise of postsecondary reform.

This resolution was passed on __________, 2008 in a __________ vote of the Faculty Senate of Eastern Kentucky University.

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David Eakin
Associate Professor, Biological Sciences
Chair of the Faculty Senate