

**A resolution by the Florida Association of Colleges and Universities, supporting veterans in their pursuit of higher education in Florida.**



**WHEREAS**, recognizing the contributions of those who served our country in defense of our freedom, the Florida Association of Colleges and Universities - the only organization in the state that represents all of Florida's community and state colleges, state universities and private, independent colleges and universities - supports the professional development and advancement of servicemen and women in our state; and

**WHEREAS**, each year over 30,000 servicemen and women and their families attend Florida colleges and universities and claim veterans benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida has the third largest population of veterans in the United States with more than 1.6 million veterans – 12 percent of our state's population over the age of 18; and

**WHEREAS**, our colleges and universities are opening our doors welcoming veterans home and improving services to meet the unique needs they present; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Florida is a leader in its support for veterans and continuously seeks to enhance its support for those who serve our country; and


**WHEREAS**, the Association supports all legislation with provisions to grant resident status for tuition purposes for veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States, including the National Guard and reserve components joining 20 other states in the Union who have passed similar legislation; and

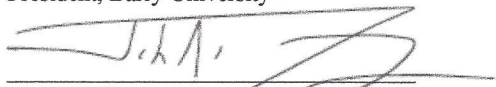
**WHEREAS**, the Association supports giving veterans broader educational choices that address their specific needs and helps ease their transition into civilian life afforded by the proposed G.I. Bill Tuition Fairness Act of 2013 that grants in-state resident tuition at public colleges and universities.

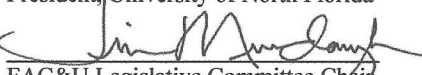
**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the Florida Association of Colleges and Universities hereby commends the contributions of active duty servicemen and women and veterans of the Armed Forces and declares our support for their pursuit of higher education in Florida.

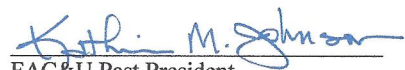
**ADOPTED** this 14<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2014, by unanimous action of the Association's Board of Directors and signed by the members of the Association's Executive Committee below on the opening day of Florida's legislative session, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2014.

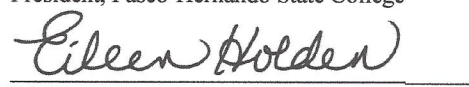
**Executive Committee  
Florida Association of Colleges and Universities**

  
FAC&U President  
Sister Linda Bevilacqua, OP, Ph.D.  
President, Barry University

  
FAC&U Vice President  
John Delaney, J.D.  
President, University of North Florida

  
FAC&U Legislative Committee Chair  
James Murdaugh, Ph.D.  
President, Tallahassee Community College

  
FAC&U Past President  
Katherine M. Johnson, Ed.D.  
President, Pasco-Hernando State College

  
FAC&U Vice President, Elect  
Eileen Holden, Ed.D.  
President, Polk State College



*FAC&U is the only organization comprised of all 70 college and university presidents representing all three sectors of the non-profit private and public higher educational institutions in Florida; this includes all presidents from the State University System, the Florida College System and the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida.*