

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF SOUTH PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP BONDS AND ENCOURAGING THE FISCAL DISCIPLINE
NECESSARY TO MINIMIZE THEIR IMPACT ON THE TAX RATE**

WHEREAS, the Union County Chamber has adopted a legislative agenda articulating its public policy priorities; and

WHEREAS, the legislative agenda states that “The Chamber supports policies, programs, and initiatives that provide an adequately trained, available workforce for all business and industries including future expansion in Union County;” and

WHEREAS, the legislative agenda further states that “The Chamber opposes taxes and regulations by any jurisdiction that hinder or interfere with business growth, development, and prosperity in Union County or that place Union County businesses at a disadvantage when competing with businesses outside Union County;” and

WHEREAS, South Piedmont Community College has identified the need to support entrepreneurial growth in Union County, noting that 62% of Union County businesses employ fewer than ten employees; and

WHEREAS, South Piedmont Community College is planning the Center for Entrepreneurship to provide a more sustainable business support community, working alongside local and regional resource partners to build a collaborative workspace for Union County entrepreneurs at every stage of their business cycle; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Entrepreneurship will advance the development of an adequately trained and available workforce in Union County; and

WHEREAS, the Union County Board of County Commissioners have authorized a referendum asking voters to approve a \$32,725,000 bond for facility construction during the 2022 general election; and

WHEREAS, the debt service for these bonds will be paid by the Union County general fund; and

WHEREAS, Union County leaders will face difficult decisions about whether the funding for these bonds comes from raising the tax rate or making reductions in other areas; and

WHEREAS, a strong workforce built on public education and a competitive tax rate are both important to the future prosperity of Union County;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Union County Chamber that it encourages the voters of Union County to vote “yes” on the bond referendum for community college facilities on November 8, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Union County Chamber believes the Center for Entrepreneurship aligns with the Chamber's stated mission by directly benefiting the business community and thus actively work in furtherance of the passage of said referendum and take all necessary, proper, and reasonable actions in furtherance of that end.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Union County Chamber encourages leadership at the South Piedmont Community College and Union County Government to manage construction projects as efficiently as possible and manage their budgets and the use of such funding as prudently as reasonably possible and in such a way as to minimize the need for future tax increases.

Adopted this 16th day of September 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pat Kahle", written over a horizontal line.

Pat Kahle, IOM
President/CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denise White", written over a horizontal line.

Denise White, Chair
Board of Directors