

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PASSAGE OF UNION COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL BONDS AND  
ENCOURAGING THE FISCAL DISCIPLINE NECESSARY TO MINIMIZE THEIR IMPACT ON THE TAX  
RATE**

**WHEREAS**, the Union County Chamber of Commerce 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**, Union County Public Schools has identified more than \$800 million in school renovation and expansion needs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Union County Board of County Commissioners have authorized a referendum asking voters to approve a \$134,405,000 bond for school construction during the 2022 general election; and

**WHEREAS**, Union County Public Schools will use this bond funding to replace East Elementary School, which is 70 years old, and Forest Hills High School, which is 60 years old; and

**WHEREAS**, investment in these schools will increase equity across the school system and enhance the system’s Agrotechnology (AgTech) program. This program integrates technology in the agricultural industry and prepares students for over 300 careers in agriculture; and

**WHEREAS**, said investment and said program will advance the development of an adequately trained and available workforce in Union County; 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 of Commerce that it encourages the voters of Union County to vote “yes” on the bond referendum for public schools on November 8, 2022.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Union County Chamber of Commerce encourages leadership at the Union County Schools and Union County Government to manage school 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 16<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Kahle". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Pat Kahle, IOM  
President/CEO

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise White". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Denise White, Chair  
Board of Directors