

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**SPECIAL RESOLUTION: REGENTS OUTLINE ECONOMIC CRISIS FOR OHIO  
IF LAWMAKERS SLASH HIGHER EDUCATION BUDGET**

***MANSFIELD, Ohio, April 19, 2001*** – The future of Ohio’s economy is in jeopardy. So says the Ohio Board of Regents, which passed a special resolution at its monthly board meeting, held today at The Ohio State University’s Mansfield Campus.

Through the resolution (which follows), the Regents urged state leaders “to provide adequate investments in higher education to better secure Ohio’s economic prosperity.” The Regents called upon the higher education and business community, including students, their parents, trustees, alumni, faculty, staff, presidents and business leaders “to mobilize their efforts to inform state public policy makers about the impact of inadequate funding.”

College students and their families, Ohio’s businesses and the future economy of the state will feel the devastating effects of significant reductions in the higher education budget for FY 2002-2003, the Regents said.

Ohio’s corporate leaders as well as the state’s best faculty will quickly discern the overall direction of state policies and could begin to look at their options elsewhere, the Regents said.

In addition, the Regents said, if Ohio’s leaders insist on funding primary and secondary education at the expense of higher education, Ohio’s high school graduates – and our state’s future leaders – will find a higher education system offering reduced opportunities for their development to meet the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century Knowledge Economy.

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