



National Lieutenant Governors Association

1 **RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING STATES TO REENGAGE ADULTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

2 **WHEREAS**, postsecondary education is becoming increasingly critical to socioeconomic mobility and
3 economic resilience; and

4 **WHEREAS**, only 80,000 of the 11.6 million jobs created in the national economy since 2010 have gone to
5 individuals with a high school diploma or less; and

6 **WHEREAS**, to meet the demand for highly educated workers and improve the nation's economic health,
7 states must re-engage the 28 million adults between the ages of 25 and 64 who have some college but no
8 degree; and

9 **WHEREAS**, this non-credentialed adult population faces particular challenges in the labor market,
10 including threats from technological automation and trade-based dislocation; and

11 **WHEREAS**, online competency-based education provides working adults, including those with childcare
12 and other family obligations, the ability to pursue a postsecondary degree with minimal disruption to
13 their personal lives; and

14 **WHEREAS**, NLGA Members are well positioned to implement statewide initiatives aimed at serving
15 geographically diverse populations, coordinate state resources, and develop public-private partnerships
16 to facilitate funding and support for higher education programs.

17 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the NLGA encourages its members to promote policies that
18 support non-credentialed adults returning to postsecondary education by:

- 19 1) Reducing barriers to re-entry into post-secondary education such as cost, child care, and
20 developmental education;
- 21 2) Identifying and implementing best practices for ensuring retention and degree completion;
- 22 3) Expanding resources available to re-entering students, including online, workspace and advising
23 support services;
- 24 4) Developing pathways for specific populations to facilitate the transition back to higher education;
- 25 5) Aligning prior learning gained through the workplace, apprenticeship programs, or military
26 experience with degree programs; and



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- 27 6) Raising awareness about the utility and accessibility of competency-based education and online
28 college completion.

ADOPTED, this day, the 16th of March, 2018.

Sponsors: Lt. Governor Mike Cooney (D – Montana), Lt. Governor Suzanne Crouch (R – Indiana), Lt. Governor Cyrus Habib (D – Washington), Lt. Gov. Matt Michels (R – South Dakota), Lt. Gov. Rebecca Kleefisch (R – Wisconsin); Lt. Governor David Zuckerman (P-D – Vermont)