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S10RS SGR No. 10 (Teach for America)

Palermo

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A RESOLUTION
TO URGE THE LOUISIANA CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE INCREASE IN TEACH FOR AMERICA’S FEDERAL FUNDING.

PARAGRAPH 1: WHEREAS, LOUISIANA’S PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM HAS CONSISTENTLY RANKED AMONG THE BOTTOM IN EVERY NATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATOR; AND

PARAGRAPH 2: WHEREAS, RIGHT HERE IN THE BATON ROUGE AREA, 70000 STUDENTS HAVE FAILED TO MEET THE NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS TO GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS; AND

PARAGRAPH 3: WHEREAS, SINCE IT’S CONCEPTION IN 1990, TEACH FOR AMERICA HAS BEEN NARROWING THE EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT GAP IN THE SOUTH LOUISIANA REGION; AND

PARAGRAPH 4: WHEREAS, THE DEMAND FOR TEACH FOR AMERICA AND TEACHERS IN LOW-INCOME DISTRICTS IS AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH. THIS REDUCTION IN FEDERAL FUNDING WOULD CRIPPLE THE IMPACT TEACH FOR AMERICA PROVIDES TO THE EDUCATIONAL FRAMEWORK OF OUR BATON ROUGE COMMUNITY; AND

PARAGRAPH 5: WHEREAS, OF ALL OF TEACH FOR AMERICA’S THIRTY-FIVE PLACEMENT REGIONS, TWO OF THE THREE HIGHEST NEED REGIONS ARE RIGHT HERE IN OUR HOME STATE: SOUTH LOUISIANA AND GREATER NEW ORLEANS; AND

PARAGRAPH 6: WHEREAS, TEACH FOR AMERICA HAS REQUESTED $50 MILLION THROUGH THE LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS BILL, BUT HAS ONLY CURRENTLY BEEN PLEDGED $21 MILLION; AND

PARAGRAPH 7: WHEREAS, THIS REDUCTION IN FUNDING WOULD CRIPPLE TEACH FOR AMERICA’S STRATEGIC PLAN AND ULTIMATELY WILL REDUCE THE 2011 CORPS SIZE BY 30%. THIS THIRTY PERCENT REDUCTION WILL RESULT IN MORE THAN 1200 LESS TEACHERS BEING ACCEPTED TO CLOSE THE ACHIEVEMENT GAP; AND

PARAGRAPH 8: WHEREAS, WE BELIEVE INCREASING TEACH FOR AMERICA’S FEDERAL FUNDING AND ULTIMATELY PROVIDING EXCELLENT TEACHERS IS NEITHER A DEMOCRAT NOR REPUBLICAN ISSUE. FUNDING EDUCATION MEANS FUNDING OUR FUTURE; AND

PARAGRAPH 9: WHEREAS, WE WANT TO COMMEND CONGRESSMAN CAO AND MELANCON FOR ALREADY SHOWING THEIR SUPPORT FOR THIS ENDEAVOR; AND
PARAGRAPH 10: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT OF LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE urge and request that the Louisiana Congressional delegation support the increase of federal funding for Teach For America; and

PARAGRAPH 11: THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT A SUITABLE COPY OF THIS RESOLUTION GET PRESENTED TO: SENATOR MARY LANDRIEU, SENATOR DAVID VITTER, CONGRESSMAN STEVE SCALISE, CONGRESSMAN JOSEPH CAO, CONGRESSMAN CHARLIE MELANCON, CONGRESSMAN JOHN FLEMING, CONGRESSMAN RODNEY ALEXANDER, CONGRESSMAN BILL CASSIDY, CONGRESSMAN CHARLES BOUSTANY, AND TEACH FOR AMERICA FOUNDER AND CEO WENDY KOPP.

PARAGRAPH 12: THIS RESOLUTION SHALL TAKE EFFECT UPON PASSAGE BY A MAJORITY (1/2) VOTE OF THE LSU STUDENT SENATE AND SIGNATURE BY THE PRESIDENT; UPON LAPSE OF TIME FOR PRESIDENTIAL ACTION; OR IF VETOED BY THE PRESIDENT AND SUBSEQUENTLY APPROVED BY THE SENATE.

Approved:

__________________________  __________________________
Tyler Martin                Stuart Watkins
Speaker of the Senate       Student Body President

Date:____________________   Date:____________________