

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT

Whereas, the economic hopes of eastern North Carolina and the entire state, rest largely on a well-prepared workforce;

Whereas, many of the residents of eastern North Carolina are in need of post-secondary educational opportunities to compete in the global market;

Whereas, eastern North Carolina deserves affordable access to the UNC system; and

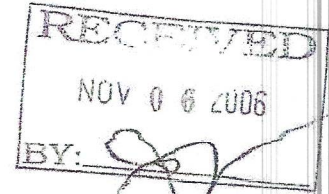
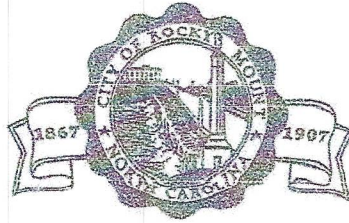
Whereas the UNC system has commissioned a study to determine the educational needs of eastern North Carolina; and

Whereas, there are only three campuses of the University of North Carolina east of Interstate 95;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Carolinas Gateway Partnership supports the expansion of the University of North Carolina system and encourages its state representatives to take action to establish a new campus at the site of North Carolina Wesleyan College.

BY: Marsha W. Strambridge

DATE: 11-20-06



CITY OF ROCKY MOUNT
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

November 2, 2006

The Honorable Marsha Strawbridge
Mayor of Town of Bunn
P. O. Box 398
Bunn, North Carolina 27508

Dear Mayor Strawbridge:

During the last session of the General Assembly of North Carolina a bill was enacted to "direct the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina to study the feasibility of making North Carolina Wesleyan College a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina ." A critical component of this study will be area support for this effort.

The impacts of a positive result of this study will be far-reaching. The charge to the Board of Governors included seeking input from those geographic areas affected. A copy of the full house bill is attached.

We seek your support by way of adoption of the enclosed resolution. I am sure that you agree that one of the keys to our region's economic transformation is education. In addition to all the efforts now underway to encourage more of our citizens to graduate from high school and to upgrade worker training through the community college system, it is clear that they will need college degrees if they are going to compete for the jobs of the future.

The bill correctly states that the "focus shall be placed on utilizing the campus in a manner that addresses both the economic and educational challenges of the region in a unique and focused manner, such as in the areas of science, technology, education, and economic development." Providing an affordable and accessible University presence would go a long way toward the economic renewal for our region.

The Honorable Marsha Strawbridge

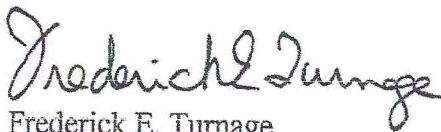
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Thank you in advance for your consideration of this resolution. Time is of the essence. We encourage you to act at your next meeting so that your voice will be heard. There is a community "rally" being planned for November 20, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. at the Dunn Center on the campus of North Carolina Wesleyan College which we cordially invite you to attend. If you can attend, I would like to invite you to join other elected officials on the platform.

Please call John Gessaman at 252-442-0114 if you have any questions or would like a community representative to be present at your next meeting to discuss this vital issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frederick E. Turnage". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Frederick E. Turnage
Mayor

Enclosures