

## Resolution of the Board of Supervisors of Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College

Whereas in *Students for Fair Admissions v. President and Fellows of Harvard College et al*, (“*SFA v. Harvard*”) the United States Supreme Court held that the admissions programs in which preferential treatment was provided to certain individuals based upon race could not be reconciled with the guarantees of the equal protection clause of the United States of America;

Whereas prior to this decision, many universities maintained admissions standards and other programs that targeted and provided preferential treatment to individuals based upon race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin;

Whereas, over time, many of these programs evolved and proliferated under the title of “diversity, equity and inclusion;”

Whereas following the *SFA v. Harvard* decision, universities across the country have had to evaluate admissions processes as well as other types of programs classifying individuals based upon specific characteristics;

Whereas Louisiana State University and Agricultural and Mechanical College (“LSU”) is a system of federally funded educational institutions that are required to comply with both federal and state law;

Whereas, in accordance with the *SFA v. Harvard* decision, LSU will review all programs or bureaucracies in which persons are classified by race, sex, color, ethnicity, political views, or national origin for the purpose of providing some type of preferential treatment or benefit;

Whereas, based upon the foregoing supreme court opinion, the Louisiana legislature adopted Act 641 of the 2024 regular legislative session mandating that all public postsecondary education institutions report the expenditure of public funds on programs related to diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging;

Whereas, LSU also supports open dialogue, civil discourse, and engagement on issues that allow our students to learn from each other and form their own opinions;

Whereas, in order to support this goal, LSU aligns itself with the University of Chicago’s longstanding and documented approach to institutional neutrality—so that students can speak and listen freely, without influence from the administration’s personal or institutional viewpoints;

Whereas in order to foster free speech and open dialogue, the university should also be a place free of political coercion whether individual or institutional;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the LSU administration undertake a comprehensive review of all programs and bureaucracies including those titled “diversity, equity and inclusion” in which classifications are maintained on the basis race, sex, color, ethnicity, political views or national origin;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any such programs which utilize race, sex, color, ethnicity, political views or national origin for the purposes of conferring any preferential treatment in violation of the rule of law outlined by the supreme court in *SFA v. Harvard* will be eliminated.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, unless required by federal or state law, no hiring policies or practices shall compel, require, induce, or solicit any person to provide a diversity, equity, or inclusion statement or give preferential consideration to any person based on the provision of a diversity, equity, or inclusion statement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nothing in this resolution shall be interpreted to limit academic freedom—including research, scholarship, grant funding, or fulfilling accreditation requirements.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that nothing in this resolution shall prevent the organization or assembly of any student-oriented groups, programs, or organizations as protected by La. R.S. 17:3399.33 or the First Amendment of the United States constitution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the LSU administration provide a full report, which shall include a detailed listing of all programs or bureaucracies that have been eliminated or will be eliminated within 90 days from the adoption of this resolution, to the LSU Board of Supervisors.