



Resolution

In support of San Jacinto College 2015 Bond Referendum

WHEREAS, the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce is an economic development organization, whose mission is to promote business growth, educational excellence and community partnerships while fostering the overall vitality and quality of life throughout the Clear Lake Bay Area Houston region; and

WHEREAS, the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce serves 125 square miles of the Texas Gulf Coast region including nine cities within portions of Harris and Galveston Counties that encompass a population of approximately 250,000 in close proximity to Galveston Bay and the Gulf of Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce recognizes the need for a skilled, well-trained, and talented workforce to meet the needs of industry along the Texas Gulf Coast; and

WHEREAS, for 54 years, San Jacinto College has been a proven leader in higher education and workforce training in East Harris County and along the Texas Gulf Coast, providing seamless transitions for students directly entering the workforce or transferring to a four-year college or university to pursue a bachelor's degree; and

WHEREAS, San Jacinto College enrolls approximately 30,000 credit and 10,000 continuing education students each semester as the eighth largest community college in Texas, and the third largest in the Gulf Coast region; and

WHEREAS, by 2019 East Harris County will need 11,000 skilled workers to replace a retiring workforce, relying on partnerships with San Jacinto College to ensure workers are trained on the most technologically advanced equipment; and

WHEREAS, students who earn a certificate or associate degree have a higher career and earning potential; and

WHEREAS, in each of the last three years, San Jacinto College has awarded more than 5,000 certificates or associate degrees, more than doubling the number of graduates from eight years ago, an increase of 108.8 percent; and

WHEREAS, the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce supports the San Jacinto College mission of ensuring student success, creating seamless transitions, and enriching the quality of life in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce recognizes that to continue to be a leader in higher education in East Harris County and along the Texas Gulf Coast, San Jacinto College must update infrastructure, security, and technology; renovate existing facilities; and construct new buildings on each of its campuses, which are critical to the success of students and our community; and

WHEREAS, a \$425 million bond referendum has been called by the San Jacinto College Board of Trustees for November 3, 2105, to secure the funding necessary for these projects; and

WHEREAS, San Jacinto College is committed to keeping taxes low while providing an affordable, quality education, ensuring that the impact of the bond referendum to taxpayers in our community will be a maximum of 3 cents, with no or minimal impact to our senior citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce fully supports San Jacinto College and its bond referendum scheduled to appear on the November 3, 2015 ballot; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce encourages residents in our community to vote in favor of the San Jacinto College bond referendum to keep our community strong.

ADOPTED this 15th day of September 2015

Sharon Proulx
Chairman of the Board

Cindy Harreld DeWease
President and CEO

Handwritten signature of Sharon Proulx in black ink.

Handwritten signature of Cindy Harreld DeWease in black ink.