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**Resolution to: Endorse the adoption of open textbooks by faculty in MCC courses**

WHEREAS, research conducted by the College Board has found that the average student spends \$1,200 per year on textbooks and,

WHEREAS, an assumption can be made that this \$1,200 drastically *understates* the real cost of textbooks incurred per student based on 70% of students surveyed who admitted to skipping purchasing their textbooks for one or more classes and,

WHEREAS, the price of textbooks has risen at four times the rate of inflation in the past two decades—faster than medical prices, new home prices, and the CPI with textbook publishers showing inadequate responses to the concerns of students, faculty, and other stakeholders and,

WHEREAS, the cost of college textbooks is often a major affordability issue for students who take on additional loan debt to pay for textbooks, or undercut their own learning by forgoing the purchase of textbooks and,

WHEREAS, the cost of textbooks is a direct negative impact on the students quality of education as well as a limitation of their opportunities to see academic success due to insufficient funds or unwillingness to pay textbook expenses and,

WHEREAS, an ‘open textbook’ is defined as an: online, free to access, easy to share, and affordable to print textbook written by education professionals under an open license; and,

WHEREAS, open textbooks offer an affordable, comparable, and flexible alternative to expensive, commercial textbooks and,

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility and right of faculty to select the course materials that they feel are most appropriate for class and providing a quality education and,

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to seek and consider low- and no-cost options, including open textbooks, as long as there is no reduction in the quality of education; and,

WHEREAS, faculty and students both share a concern about textbooks affordability and its impact on student success; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that Monroe Community College (MCC) Student Government Association endorses and requests the utilization of open textbooks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Student Government Association encourages faculty to consider open textbooks. ~~and other textbook affordability options for their courses.~~

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Student Government Association encourages Monroe Community College staff and administration to offer support to faculty to consider and adopt open textbooks, when academically appropriate.