Title of Resolution: Tuition Equity Sponsors: Leona Ndabvonga-Senate Chair, Kodi Riebling-Senator, Danny Hawley-Senator

DATE OF FIRST READING TO SENATE BODY: 01/22/13

DATE OF FINAL VOTE: 01/22/13

FINAL VOTE COUNT: Yeas - 8 Nays - 0 Abstain - 0

WHEREAS the Associated Students of Eastern Oregon University support Tuition Equity, an Oregon Legislative Bill that would grant any student that has attended an Oregon high school for at least three years, have graduated from an Oregon high school, have been admitted to an Oregon University System institution, and who are working towards residency

AND WHEREAS every year, many accomplished students in and around the state are priced out of Higher Education

AND WHEREAS there are approximately two million children who were born outside the United States raised and educated with no legal status, but hold American values, only know this country to be their home, and have the same dreams, goals, and aspirations as any other American

AND WHEREAS undocumented immigrants make vital contributions to the economic stability and cultural richness of the United States but, many fall victim to various barriers that hinder a meaningful access to higher education

AND WHEREAS it is a waste of resources not to continue the K-12 investment already made in these students

AND WHEREAS Oregon Governor Kitzhaber moves towards reaching a more seamless P-20 system, through his 40-40-20 goal that would strive for Oregonians to fall under one of the following: forty percent with four-year college degrees, forty percent with two-year college degrees, and twenty percent with high school diplomas and Tuition Equity would play a critical role in reaching this vision and these objectives

AND WHEREAS eighteen other states have benefitted fiscally, by generating revenue, as well as strengthening and educating their communities through the passage of similar bills. These states include Washington, California, Colorado, Utah, Nevada, New Mexico, Arizona, Texas, Kansas, Illinois, Nebraska, New Jersey, Massachusetts, New York, Virginia, Georgia, North Carolina, and Florida

AND WHEREAS Eastern Oregon University's President Bob Davies' and his administration support the access of affordable Higher Education to all people throughout our state and is committed to serving students from all backgrounds and therefore supports the passage of this bill

AND WHEREAS the Student Council For Multicultural Affairs, La Familia Club, and Black Student Union support the passage of this bill

BE IT RESOLVED that the Associated Students of Eastern Oregon University are fully committed to supporting and advocating for Tuition Equity during the 2013 legislative session.