



**Randolph Community College Foundation
Resolution in Support of
1/4-Cent Sales Tax Referendum for RCC Capital Needs**

WHEREAS, Randolph Community College must increase its space and capacity in order to maintain the ability to continue serving the rapidly growing number of college transfer students, students seeking higher paying jobs, and unemployed students who turn to the College for education, training, and hope; and

WHEREAS, Randolph County has an unemployment rate of 11%, or approximately 8,250 unemployed adults, an estimated 44% of whom are currently enrolled at Randolph Community College to train for new careers; and

WHEREAS, Randolph Community College's agreement to use the former Klaussner Furniture Industries property instead of opting for the already-approved new construction saved Randolph County tax payers' money; and

WHEREAS, the former Klaussner building requires significant renovation to be used to train workers, educate students, and help put the county back to work; and

WHEREAS, the County Commissioners have called for a public referendum on the addition of a one-fourth of a penny sales tax to fund capital renovations to the former Klaussner building; and

WHEREAS, the educational referendum sales tax does NOT apply to basic necessities, such as groceries, gasoline, and medicine; and

WHEREAS, the proposed one-fourth cent education sales tax is more appropriately described as an "investment in Randolph County's economic/workforce development" than as a "tax" since studies show that every \$1.00 invested in the community college returns \$6.00 back to the community; and

WHEREAS, the referendum on the March 2 ballot in Randolph County means that for every \$4.00 spent, one penny would be collected for Randolph Community College capital needs; and

WHEREAS, one-fourth of a penny sales tax will raise the same amount of money as a 2-cent property tax; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 25-30% of the tax will be paid by non-residents who are visiting or passing through Randolph County; and

WHEREAS, funds collected via the one-fourth cent tax will provide interest-free funds for Randolph County, significantly reducing the cost of construction and saving the county large sums of money without increasing the county's debt load, a major factor in the county's ability to fund other needs; and

WHEREAS, this small investment will produce huge returns because for one-fourth of a penny investment, Randolph County gets more training for high-demand careers, more graduates entering the workforce, and enhanced economic development for Randolph County.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Randolph Community College Foundation Board supports the passage of a one-fourth cent sales tax to fund the capital needs of Randolph Community College.

Unanimously passed by Randolph Community College Foundation Directors in attendance at the Foundation Board meeting on January 21, 2010.

President, Randolph Community College Foundation

Date