APPROVE RESOLUTION CONCERNING UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS’ COMMITMENT TO SUPPLIER DIVERSITY

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has strongly and consistently supported diversity among its vendors;

WHEREAS, the Board recognizes that the active participation of University of Illinois colleges, schools, and departments is required to increase both the diversity of its pool of vendors and the monies spent with such vendors;

WHEREAS, the Board supports the hiring of a workforce on construction contracts to reflect the diversity of the communities where the contracts are performed, in accordance with the State Construction Minority and Female Building Trades Act (30 ILCS 577 et seq.);

WHEREAS, Public Act 099-0462 amends the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities Act (the Act) (30 ILCS 575 et seq.) by focusing on increasing participation in the area of professional services; including but not limited to, insurance services, investment management services, information technology services, accounting services, architectural and engineering services, and legal services;

WHEREAS, Public Act 099-0462 amends the Act by increasing the aspirational goal from 10 percent to 20 percent of the total dollar amount of State
construction contracts;

WHEREAS, exceeding the state guidelines at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) for construction projects is an opportunity to impact underserved communities and would bring UIC in line with the City of Chicago as well as Cook County, which have goals of over 30 percent in construction spending for minority and women-owned businesses;

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the State to promote and encourage the continued economic development of small businesses owned and controlled by qualified veterans and that qualified service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses (referred to as SDVOSB) and veteran-owned small businesses (referred to as VOSB) participate in the State's procurement process as both prime contractors and subcontractors (30 ILCS 500/45 et seq.);

WHEREAS, not less than 3 percent of the total dollar amount of State contracts was established as a goal to be awarded to SDVOSB and VOSB.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ADOPTS THE GOALS EXPRESSED HEREIN TO FURTHER ITS SUPPLIER DIVERSITY MISSION, GUIDING PRINCIPLES, AND VISION.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

1. That not less than 20 percent of the total dollar amount of State non-construction contracts is established as an aspirational goal to be awarded to businesses owned by minorities, females, and persons with disabilities.

2. That regional aspirational goals on State construction contracts shall be 30 percent in Chicago and 20 percent in Urbana-Champaign, Springfield, Peoria, and Rockford.

3. That not less than 3 percent of the total dollar amount of State contracts is
established as an aspirational goal to be awarded to service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSB) and veteran-owned small businesses (VOSB).

4. That University administrators shall set workforce diversity goals on construction contracts as deemed appropriate and in accordance with applicable law and constitutional requirements.

5. That University administrators shall establish an apprenticeship goal whereby not less than 20 percent of the total apprenticeship hours performed on certain construction projects are to be completed by minorities and 10 percent by women.

6. That University administrators shall undertake an administrative review process to examine the establishment of separate contract goals on contracts to meet the goals established for businesses owned by minorities, females, persons with disabilities, and veterans. The University administrators shall make recommendations to the Board within 90 days of Board approval of this resolution regarding the establishment of separate contract goals.

7. That University administrators shall investigate the use of sheltered market programs that are established in accordance with the Act and meet applicable constitutional requirements.

8. That University administrators will pursue the aspirational goals by supporting the necessary resources, outreach activities, procurement support, system support, and engagement with faculty/staff/administration, national and local businesses, and advocacy organizations.

9. That in the development and implementation of these policies and procedures, the President and appropriate University administrators shall monitor and review legislation affecting supplier diversity and develop and promote legislative proposals that are designed to increase University expenditures with businesses owned by minorities, females, persons with disabilities, and veterans that have been historically underrepresented in the procurement process.

10. That the Board directs that this effort be undertaken immediately.