

House Concurrent Resolution No. 57

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2804L.011

Whereas, international education is a critical component of higher education in
2 Missouri and contributes to the economy of the state and to a diverse college environment,
3 enhancing both academic and extra-curricular programs; and
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Whereas, international education is critical to promoting a broadened worldview
5 and therefore preparing Missourians for life and work in the global economy and creating a
6 diverse academic environment by exchanging scholars and students between countries and
7 building the foundation for future business success; and
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Whereas, higher education should emphasize international education, including
10 foreign language instruction and study abroad in order to ensure graduates have the cross-cultural
11 skills necessary to function effectively in the global workforce; and
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Whereas, the Missouri General Assembly recognizes the social importance of
14 cultural awareness, the need to promote study-abroad programs that serve Missouri students and
15 the economic significance of international students who come to Missouri for educational
16 opportunities provided by the state; and
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Whereas, the economic gain of international students and their families for the
19 State of Missouri was estimated at over \$48 million in 2004-2005 and a strategy at the state and
20 national level is needed to ensure America's status as a magnet for international students and
21 scholars; and
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Whereas, the economy of Missouri is inextricably tied to the rest of the world and
24 state economic development depends upon a deliberate strategic development plan that includes
25 recognition of the role of international education in all its facets; and
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27 **Whereas**, heightened cultural awareness is critical to national interests and is a
28 critical component of foreign policy, and Missouri's colleges and universities play a key role in
29 developing foreign language and foreign-area expertise by promoting language study, study
30 abroad, and faculty exchange programs; and

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32 **Whereas**, the United States' national security and economic interests and
33 competitiveness depend significantly on the country's ability to provide future leaders with the
34 best education possible:

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36 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** by the members of the House of
37 Representatives of the Ninety-fourth General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate
38 concurring therein, that international education is an essential component of the future of the
39 State of Missouri and the Missouri General Assembly supports and encourages students and
40 faculty to promote international education as a part of curricular and extra-curricular life at the
41 State's colleges and universities to ensure that students and future leaders are prepared to meet
42 the challenges of a global society; and

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44 **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
45 Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for each
46 institution of higher education in this state.