

Move Forward Now.

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT CONSTRUCTION OF STATE-OF-THE-ART VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL AND UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

WHEREAS, the medical and bioscience industries hold special promise for expanding the economy and healthcare viability of our region, and

WHEREAS, the Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC) and the new University Medical Center (UMC) will provide enormous economic benefit to our community, and

WHEREAS, access to high quality health care is critical to the attraction, retention and expansion of businesses and a highly qualified workforce, and

WHEREAS, a concentration of higher education, research, and medical education is vital to support a medical and bioscience industry, and

WHEREAS, the training of physicians and other healthcare professionals who will practice in New Orleans after training is necessary to rebuild a quality healthcare system for New Orleans, and

WHEREAS, the United States Civilian Board of Contract Appeals has directed the Federal Emergency Management Agency to execute a Project Worksheet awarding the Louisiana Office of Facility Planning and Control \$474,750,898 as a public assistance grant for the replacement of Charity Hospital,

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that we the undersigned are united in our commitment to support the Veterans Administration, the State of Louisiana and the City of New Orleans in their efforts to bring to full operation the new Veterans Administration Medical Center (VAMC) and a new University Medical Center (UMC) at their selected sites in mid-city.

We urge the accelerated development of a fully functioning VAMC and the speedy removal of any and all obstacles to the completion of this project.

Further, we stand ready to assist federal, State and local efforts to accelerate the proper development and enduring success of the UMC. We strongly support the prompt selection of the governing board and its judicious development and approval of the overall business plan.

Business Council of New Orleans and the River Region

Black Economic Development Council

New Orleans Chamber of Commerce

GNO, Inc.

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana

Jefferson Business Council

New Orleans Regional Black Chamber of Commerce

Northshore Business Council

Plaquemines Association of Business and Industry

St. Bernard Chamber of Commerce

Greater New Orleans Biosciences Economic Development District