

House Concurrent Resolution No. 24

95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES HOSKINS (121) (Sponsor), KINGERY, NOLTE,
FUNDERBURK, MOLENDORP, THOMSON, BROWN (149), WRIGHT AND WALLACE (Co-sponsors).

4308L.01I

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
4

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
8
9

Whereas, higher education should emphasize international education, including
10 foreign language instruction and study abroad, in order to ensure graduates have the cross-
11 cultural skills necessary to function effectively in the global workforce; and
12
13

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
17
18

Whereas, Missouri public and independent institutions of higher education and the
19 Missouri Department of Higher Education, recognizing the importance of internationalizing
20 curriculum and experiential learning, collaboratively established the Study Missouri Consortium;
21 and
22
23

Whereas, the Study Missouri Consortium functions to support and enhance the
24 capacity of member institutions, individually and collectively, to foster international experiences
25 and cross-cultural competence among students, faculty, and citizens of Missouri and to facilitate
26 communication, cooperation, and expansion of international educational activities and exchanges
27 in the State of Missouri; and
28
29

30 **Whereas**, the net contribution to our state's economy by international students and
31 their families was estimated at over \$270 million in 2008-2009 and a strategy at the state and
32 national level is needed to ensure America's status as a magnet for international students and
33 scholars; and
34

35 **Whereas**, the economy of Missouri is inextricably tied to the rest of the world and
36 state economic development depends upon a deliberate strategic development plan that includes
37 recognition of the role of international education in all its facets; and
38

39 **Whereas**, heightened cultural awareness is critical to national interests and is a
40 critical component of foreign policy, and Missouri's colleges and universities play a key role in
41 developing foreign language and foreign-area expertise by promoting language study, study
42 abroad, and faculty exchange programs; and
43

44 **Whereas**, the United States' national security and economic interests and
45 competitiveness depend significantly on the country's ability to provide future leaders with the
46 best education possible:
47

48 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** by the members of the Missouri House
49 of Representatives, Ninety-fifth General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the Senate
50 concurring therein, that international education is an essential component of the future of the
51 State of Missouri and the Missouri General Assembly supports and encourages students and
52 faculty to promote international education as a part of curricular and extra-curricular life at the
53 state's colleges and universities to ensure that students and future leaders are prepared to meet
54 the challenges of a global society; and
55

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

✓