

1 **NYSAC 2022 Legislative Conference**
2 **Standing Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs**
3 **Resolution #3**

4 **Resolution Urging the Governor and Legislature to Fully Fund the Costs of**
5 **Fashion Institute of Technology Chargebacks for Students Working Toward**
6 **Bachelor's and Master's Degrees**

7 **WHEREAS**, Community colleges are government-funded two-year colleges that grant
8 associate's degrees and certificates; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT), is not a traditional community
10 college because it provides Bachelor's and Master's degrees in addition to Associate's
11 degrees; and

12 **WHEREAS**, under state law, funding for New York's community colleges is to be
13 provided through a combination of state aid, a county sponsor contribution, and student
14 tuition and fees; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the establishment and continued operation of a statewide community
16 college system was based on a commitment to ongoing State aid funding of at least one-
17 third of community college operating costs; and

18 **WHEREAS**, Section 6305 of the State education law requires the state to reimburse
19 counties for Fashion Institute of Technology chargebacks, but the state has not provided
20 the necessary appropriations to comply with this state law requirement; and

21 **WHEREAS**, counties are currently being charged back for students attending FIT for
22 Bachelors and Master's degrees, which was not the intent of state law and the
23 community college chargeback funding requirement.

24 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the New York State Association of
25 Counties (NYSAC) calls on the Governor and State Legislature to restore the full funding
26 of FIT chargebacks to counties for this year and in future years related to all educational
27 instruction provided after two years (coursework necessary for a 4-year, and/or master's
28 degree); and

29 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to member
30 counties for their consideration; and

31 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, NYSAC shall forward copies of this resolution to
32 Governor Kathy Hochul, the New York State Legislature and all others deemed
33 necessary and proper.