

# Amended Resolution #16-06

Approved by the SAM Membership at the SAM Business Meeting 10-20-16

## **Resolution #16-06 – ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR CAREER AND VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

**WHEREAS**, in 2015, the Montana Legislature appropriated \$1.5 million in each year of the 2017 biennium for secondary vocational education programs. These appropriations maintain the state funding at the FY 2014 base expenditure level; and

**WHEREAS**, career and technical education prepares Montana students for a wide range of careers and post-secondary education programs. Career and technical education courses are found in schools across Montana, middle schools, high schools and the technical schools. Examples of such courses are: Jobs for Montana Graduates, Principles of Biomedical Sciences, Human Body Systems, Medical Interventions, Electronics, Botany and Urban Agriculture, Design Advertising, Building Trades, Welding, Machining, Auto Care, and Early Child Development; and

**WHEREAS**, career and technical education courses provide students with life and employment skills to make them highly desirable employees in today's modern workforce. Skills learned in career and technical education courses prepare students to go directly into the workforce or to continue their education with a much higher degree of focus and direction for their career goals; and

**WHEREAS**, Montana has over 500 approved career and technical education programs and over 800 certified teachers in Agriculture, Business, Marketing, Family and Consumer Sciences, Industrial Technology, and Health Sciences. At least 156 Montana high schools participate in the federal Carl D. Perkins and state Career and Technical Education grant programs to support and improve their Career and Technical Education programs. Accordingly, over 41,188 students state-wide would benefit from additional CTE funding; and

**WHEREAS**, career and technical education benefits not only our students, but our local employers and local economy;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, SAM hereby request that the 2017 Montana Legislature increase the state's support of career and technical education by appropriating \$1 million in each year of the 2019 biennium for secondary vocational education programs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that SAM supports a funding mechanism to provide CTE opportunities for students in grades 6, 7 and 8.

**Designation: Support**