

## RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE MIDLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN SUPPORT OF THE MIDLAND COLLEGE BOND REFERENDUM

**WHEREAS,** it is the vision of the Midland Chamber of Commerce to create the best business climate on the planet; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Midland pride themselves on achieving excellence in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Midland Chamber of Commerce recognizes that access to quality higher education is essential to our community's success; and

WHEREAS, higher education is necessary to the training and development of a highly skilled workforce that meets the need of Midland's industrial base; and

WHEREAS, Midland has experienced tremendous growth in population over the last decade, and that growth is projected to continue for the foreseeable future; and

**WHEREAS**, the enrollment for Midland College is projected to increase by 64% by 2030, from approximately 6,100 students today to over 10,000 to meet workforce demands; and

WHEREAS, this growth will add 35,000 students trained for high-demand, high-paying jobs over the next decade; and

**WHEREAS,** the proposed bond will provide state-of-the-art facilities, including a 250,000-square-foot Applied Technology Complex and a 52,000-square-foot Health Sciences addition, to support the education and training of a highly skilled workforce in technical and healthcare fields; and

WHEREAS, the proposed bond will provide for critical upgrades and renovations to address age-related concerns to existing facilities and infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS,** the safety of Midland College students, instructors, and staff is essential for academic success, and the proposed bond includes vital enhancements to safety and security infrastructure; and

**WHEREAS,** the projected ten-year economic impact of these investments is estimated to add \$2.4 Billion to the local economy over the next decade; and

**WHEREAS,** delaying action in addressing Midland College's facility limitations and concerns will negatively impact workforce development and require greater investment at a later date.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** the Board of Directors of the Midland Chamber of Commerce endorses the passage of the Midland College \$450 Million bond referendum to address critical facility needs, enhance campus safety, and support the development of a highly skilled workforce and recommends to its members and the citizens of Midland that they vote to approve the proposition on May 3, 2025.

Approved on April 1, 2025

Melissa Wicker, Chairman

ATTEST: VEGSSE WICKEN

Evan Thomas, President & CEO