Whereas, the State University of New York at Albany is the only public doctoral degree granting institution in a 26-county radius; and,

Whereas, the State University of New York at Albany is the single largest enterprise in the Capital Region outside of State government with over 23,000 students, faculty and staff; and,

Whereas, the State University of New York at Albany drives over $4.1 billion annually of economic impact throughout the region; and,

Whereas, there are over 17,300 academic achieving students enrolled for the 2012-2013 academic year; and,

Whereas, the State University of New York at Albany is home to the top-ranked Nano College in the world; and,

Whereas, the State University of New York at Albany has 10 graduate programs ranked in the nation’s top 30; and,

Whereas, the State University of New York at Albany is the most productive public research university in the State with over $425 million in research expenditures generated by faculty in the 2011-2012 academic year; and,

Whereas, the current SUNY Capital Plan (2008-2013) is expiring; and,

Whereas, the State University of New York Trustees approved a recommended $5.1 billion Capital Plan for SUNY campuses in December 2012; and,

Whereas, the State University of New York at Albany would have received capital funding to support its capital needs over the next five years if funded; and,
Whereas, a meaningful, long-term Capital Plan is essential to thoroughly address decades of deferred maintenance and upgrade needs to ensure 21st century safe and secure learning and living spaces for State University of New York at Albany students, faculty and staff; and,

Whereas, the State University of New York at Albany’s Uptown Campus was constructed in a single, massive development of some 4 million square feet in the mid-1960’s with all of its buildings and systems reaching 50 years old, obsolescing at the same time; and,

Whereas, much of University at Albany’s 3.2 million square feet of academic space has not been thoroughly renovated since original construction – nearly 50 years ago for the Uptown Campus and more than 80 years ago for the Downtown Campus; and,

Whereas, this capital funding would advance the gut-renovation of 128,000 GSF of this space, specifically the old Health Center and the old Business Administration building; and,

Whereas, the mechanical and laboratory systems in the sciences buildings are in need of extensive renovation. Modern electrical, ventilation, and health/safety code requirements cannot be accommodated by the early 1960’s design of the University at Albany buildings; and,

Whereas, the State University of New York at Albany has a shortage of recreational and varsity athletic spaces and what is in the inventory is in need of repair and upgrade. These funds would begin design of new facilities to serve athletic and recreation needs as well as create swing space so that existing 50 year-old facilities can be renovated; and,

Whereas, the Executive Budget did not include substantial and adequate funding for the SUNY Capital Plan.

Therefore, be it resolved that the State University of New York at Albany Student Association encourage Governor Cuomo and the State Legislature to include in the 2013-14 enacted State budget funding for the SUNY Capital Plan for the University at Albany in the amount of $293 million to address critical capital needs across the University at Albany’s campuses.

Be it further resolved that this resolution be sent to Governor Cuomo, Lieutenant Governor Duffy, New York State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, New York State Senate Majority Coalition Leader Dean Skelos, New York State Senate Majority Coalition Leader Jeffrey Klein, and the University at Albany’s Capital Region Legislative Delegation, as well as the Albany Student Press and Capital Region media.

Arthur Rushforth, President

I, Greg Albert, attest this is a true and valid record of action taken by the Student Association Senate on the date provided.

Greg Albert, Chairman