

## Senate Resolution 147

By: Senators Grant of the 25th, Tolleson of the 20th, Stone of the 23rd and Chance of the 16th

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the importance of private sector colleges and universities in America's higher  
2 education; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, private sector colleges enroll nearly 2.6 million students in the United States  
4 and comprise 42 percent of the 6,667 Title-IV eligible postsecondary institutions; and

5 WHEREAS, private sector colleges serve a diverse group of students and enroll a higher  
6 percentage of minorities – 40 percent compared to 32 percent at public and 22 percent at  
7 private nonprofit institutions; and

8 WHEREAS, 24 percent of all African American students and 18 percent of all Hispanic  
9 students who received associate degrees in 2008-2009 earned them at a private sector  
10 college; and

11 WHEREAS, although private sector colleges enroll a much smaller number of students, 10  
12 percent, than do private nonprofits, 17 percent, and public institutions, they account for a  
13 disproportionate percentage of graduates in key fields, including 42 percent of health care  
14 degrees and certificates conferred at two-year and less than two-year institutions and 14  
15 percent of health care degrees and certificates at four-year or more institutions; and

16 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Education is considering rules that may  
17 adversely impact hundreds of thousands of students attending private sector colleges and  
18 universities and are antithetical to the President's goal of the United States once again having  
19 the highest proportion of colleges graduates in the world by 2020.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
21 recognize the importance of increasing the number of college graduates among American  
22 students; support laws and regulations that promote fair and equal access to all sectors of

23 higher education; and acknowledge that career aspirations should be a matter of choice for  
24 those pursuing a higher education.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
26 to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the  
27 United States Congress, and the appropriate leadership of the United States Department of  
28 Education.