



**Louisiana Council of Student Body Presidents**  
Representing Over 197,000 Students Statewide

**A Resolution**

*Thus enacted on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2008 by the  
Council of Student Body Presidents*

*WHEREAS, the Council of Student Body Presidents represents over one hundred, ninety-seven thousand (197,000) students in the state of Louisiana; and*

*WHEREAS, we, the elected student body leaders of Louisiana's postsecondary education institutions, comprise the Council of Student Body Presidents; and*

*WHEREAS, we, the Council of Student Body Presidents, are outraged over the violent incidents which have occurred at campuses across the country and most notably the Virginia Tech shootings in 2007; and*

*WHEREAS, violence has found its way onto the campuses of Louisiana postsecondary institutions; and*

*WHEREAS, the Council of Student Body Presidents is concerned about and actively involved in conversations about how to make campuses safer for our constituents; and*

*WHEREAS, House Bill 199, which would allow for concealed handguns on college campuses, has been filed in the Louisiana Legislature for consideration in the 2008 Regular Session; and*

*WHEREAS, we, the Council of Student Body Presidents, have discussed the pros and cons of such a measure at great length; and*

*WHEREAS, we have discussed the need for more campus police on our campuses, more training of students and faculty, more resources for campus police offices and many other matters of concern regarding campus security; and*

*WHEREAS, we, the Council of Student Body Presidents, do not feel that the proliferation of handguns on campuses or the arming of students and faculty would prevent or curtail violence on campuses but, rather, would increase the risk of such violence; and*

***WHEREAS**, this body of student leaders wishes to place the safety, security, and lives of our students and faculty in the hands of trained law enforcement professionals; and*

***WHEREAS**, students on our campuses have expressed strong opposition to this measure and have expressed concern for their safety; and*

***WHEREAS**, according to an April 18, 2008 article in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, similar legislation to allow concealed weapons on college campuses "have failed in Alabama, Indiana, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and other states known for strong gun rights;" and*

***WHEREAS**, we, the Council of Student Body Presidents, believe that the enactment of such a measure would have a chilling effect on the recruitment and retention of highly qualified students and faculty and place Louisiana institutions at a disadvantage.*

***THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of Student Body Presidents oppose House Bill 199; and*

***THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Council of Student Body Presidents urge and request the Governor of the State of Louisiana and the Legislature of the State of Louisiana to provide adequate resources to protect our students and faculty from harm.*



CAREY HAWKINS ASH, CHAIRMAN

Louisiana Council of Student Body Presidents

President, Student Government Association

Southern University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

## Member Institutions:

### Louisiana State University System

Louisiana State University and A&M College  
Louisiana State University at Alexandria  
Louisiana State University at Eunice  
Louisiana State University at Shreveport  
LSU Health Sciences Center at New Orleans  
LSU Health Sciences Center at Shreveport  
Louisiana State University Law Center  
University of New Orleans

### Southern University System

Southern University and A&M College  
Southern University Law Center  
Southern University at New Orleans  
Southern University at Shreveport

### University of Louisiana System

Grambling State University  
Louisiana Tech University  
McNeese State University  
Nicholls State University  
Northwestern State University  
Southeastern Louisiana University  
University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
University of Louisiana at Monroe

### Louisiana Community and Technical College System

Baton Rouge Community College  
Bossier Parish Community College  
Delgado Community College  
Louisiana Delta Community College  
Nunez Community College  
River Parishes Community College  
South Louisiana Community College  
L.E. Fletcher Technical Community College  
Sowela Technical Community College  
Louisiana Technical College