WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has altered many facets of our lives, including the operations of Iowa’s Regent Universities; and

WHEREAS, a State of Public Health Disaster Emergency was declared by Governor Kim Reynolds, and a State of Emergency was declared at Iowa’s Regents Universities by Board President Mike Richards, in March 2020; and

WHEREAS, campus operations suffered major disruptions in the Spring 2020 semester, and we appreciate the efforts of faculty, staff and students who were forced into quickly adjusting their teaching, working, and learning environments as the pandemic spread; and

WHEREAS, health care workers at all three Regent Universities, and at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, were heroes serving on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic, providing critical health care and services and have gone above and beyond working to keep us safe and healthy; and

WHEREAS, the State Hygienic Laboratory at the University of Iowa has done remarkable work, conducting more than 200,000 COVID-19 tests, and as the state’s public health and environmental health laboratory, continues to provide disease detection and numerous other critical services to citizens from all of Iowa’s 99 counties; and

WHEREAS, campus committees at the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, and the University of Northern Iowa have worked extremely hard at establishing plans for our campus operations in Fall 2020, and these committees have come up with thoughtful, detailed procedures to keep our campuses safe; and

WHEREAS, staff at the Regent institutions have worked tirelessly to implement the necessary health and safety protocols on our campuses to allow for the delivery of in-person classes this fall, in an effort to provide a productive and safe living and learning environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, expresses its deep gratitude to all those at Iowa’s Regent Universities who have worked so hard on the challenges presented during the COVID-19 pandemic. The countless hours that these selfless and dedicated faculty, staff and students have put forth to keep our universities operating as safely as possible during these unprecedented times will always be remembered and appreciated.

Presented this 29th Day of July by the
Board of Regents, State of Iowa

Michael J. Richards, President
Patty Cownie, President Pro Tem

David Barker  Nancy Boettger  Zack Leist
Sherry Bates  Milt Dakovich  Jim Lindemayer
Nancy Dunkel

Mark J. Braun, Executive Director