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## NEWS RELEASE

### **MONROE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SUPPORTS AMENDMENT 2**

**Monroe**-The Monroe Chamber of Commerce board of directors voted unanimously to support Louisiana Amendment 2, which will give higher education boards the authority to set tuition rates without having to seek legislative approval. Currently, those boards must seek legislative approval for any new fee or increase in an existing fee, including tuition. To pass, the measure requires a two-thirds of the legislature.

“If Amendment 2 passes, it will provide more autonomy to higher education boards, which will help them establish tuition rates that are competitive and that make sense for their colleges and universities,” said Sue Nicholson, president and CEO of the Monroe Chamber. “Amendment 2 can help provide more stability to colleges and universities in Louisiana, especially in times of deep budget cuts”.

Six amendments will be on the November 8<sup>th</sup> ballot. The Monroe Chamber took no position on the other five amendments.

“Amendment 2 is so important to the University of Louisiana at Monroe, Louisiana Tech University, Grambling State University and Louisiana Delta Community College, “ Nicholson added. “We felt that we must support Amendment 2 to ensure that our institutions have the flexibility they need to continue to provide the best education to their students.”