

December 19, 2007

The Honorable John N. Kennedy, Treasurer
Members of the State Bond Commission
State of Louisiana
P. O. Box 44154
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

Dear Treasurer Kennedy and Members of the Bond Commission:

As a representative of the business community and an advocate of the State's economic development, I write to convey my strong support for the item on the item on the December 20 Bond Commission agenda representing Act 391. This act signed into law by Governor Blanco is intended to provide much needed facility improvements to 14 campuses and 23 projects of the Louisiana Community and Technical College System (LCTCS).

Nothing is more important to the economy of Louisiana and the well being of our citizens than a well trained and well educated workforce. The state cannot expect the LCTCS colleges to move forward with needed training without facilities that meet current industry and ADA requirements. Every area of our state is experiencing trained workforce shortages and it is evident that the LCTCS can provide the training needed, given appropriate facilities and funding.

In light of our rapidly growing Community and Technical College system and its ability to attract industry and provide jobs, I am urging the Bond Commission to authorize the sale of bonds to implement Act 391 at the meeting on December 20, 2007. This is an opportunity to move our state forward. Thank you for favorable consideration of this appeal.

Sincerely,