



STATE BOARD OF CAREER COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

30 East Broad Street, Suite 2481, Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 466-2752 · Fax (614) 466-2219 · Toll Free (877) 275-4219
E-mail: bpsr@scr.state.oh.us · Website: <https://scr.ohio.gov/>

STUDENT TUITION RECOVERY AUTHORITY SUNSET REVIEW TESTIMONY

May 7, 2024

Presented by: John Ware, Chairman, Student Tuition Recovery Authority

Chairman Wilkin, members of the Sunset Review Committee, my name is John Ware, Chairman of the Ohio Student Tuition Recovery Authority and also Executive Director for the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools. On behalf of the members of the Authority, I thank you for this opportunity to present testimony in support of the Authority's continuing authorization.

The Student Tuition Recovery Authority ("STRA") was created by the Legislature in 1991 for the purpose of protecting students from tuition loss resulting from the closure of a career college or school that is approved under Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3332. In furtherance of its purpose to protect students, the STRA maintains the Ohio Student Tuition Recovery Fund ("STRF") that was created in accordance with Ohio Revised Code section 3332.083 and the STRA disburses monetary awards from the STRF to students who were enrolled in institutions that went out of business and did not return to those students their prepaid tuition or otherwise provide a means of completing their program of instruction. In addition to tuition reimbursement, the STRA uses funds from the STRF to service and maintain transcripts and other records from closed schools.

Every career college or school approved in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3332 is required to pay an annual assessment into the STRF, based on the school's prior year's gross tuition receipts. The State Board of Career Colleges and

Schools has the responsibility to collect these funds and may pursue any lawful means of assuring that students of any school registered by the Board do not suffer tuition loss as a result of a business failure or other default of a school. As of 3/30/2024 the balance in the STRF is \$868,569.

The STRA does not have a staff or operating budget and all administrative functions are performed by staff members of the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools. Since the STRA continues to function as a valuable resource to students impacted by school closures, the State Board of Career Colleges and Schools and the Student Tuition Recovery Authority request that the STRA be retained by the Sunset Review Committee.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions that you might have.