

1 **Higher Education Committee**

2 **Supporting House Bill 337**

3  
4 **Whereas**, The Governor’s Task Force on Affordability and Efficiency in Higher Education  
5 has recommended that all institutions of higher education in Ohio explore means of  
6 reducing the cost of textbooks and report annually on their progress in that area;

7 **Whereas**, No law, policy or administrative action should in any way impinge upon an  
8 individual instructor’s ability to choose whatever textbooks and other teaching materials  
9 (e.g. software, course notes, etc.) they have determined to be most appropriate for the  
10 classes that they are assigned to teach;

11 **Whereas**, Students at Ohio’s public institutions of higher education pay approximately  
12 \$30 million in sales tax on textbook purchases each year, and many states support  
13 higher education and reduce costs to students by exempting textbook purchases for  
14 secondary education from state sales tax (as proposed in the 131<sup>st</sup> Ohio General  
15 Assembly’s HB 308 and in the 132<sup>nd</sup> Ohio General Assembly’s HB 337);

16 **Be it resolved**, the Ohio Federation of Teachers moves to support House Bill 337 that  
17 would exempt post-secondary textbooks from state sales tax.