RESOLUTION EXTENDING SPECIAL TIME-LIMITED EMERGENCY AUTHORITY TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY THROUGH CALENDAR YEAR 2021

FINANCE AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

June 8, 2021

WHEREAS, in the winter of 2020, the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, swiftly swept the globe, prompting Governor Northam to declare a state of emergency for the Commonwealth of Virginia, which was followed by a declaration of emergency for Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University by President Sands, and both declarations remain in effect at this time along with requirements for physical distancing, facial coverings, and restrictions on the size of gatherings; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the potential for the pandemic to have a dramatic impact on the state's economy as well as on general fund support and the university's other sources of revenue, and that the President of the university would need multiple strategies to address those impacts, the Board of Visitors passed a resolution on June 2, 2020, delegating special time-limited emergency authority to the President through FY 2021 to take exceptional measures to reduce expenditures; and,

WHEREAS, the virus has had a profound impact on everyday life and every facet of the university, such as the mode of instruction, a decline in housing contracts, the large-scale shift to telework, reduced classroom capacity, the cancellation of athletic and other events, and more; and,

WHEREAS, certain actions taken under this emergency authority that affect employees of the Athletics Department will need to remain in effect through December 2021 to achieve their objective;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Visitors of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University hereby extends for employees of the Athletics Department all provisions of the delegation of authority approved on June 2, 2020, through the end of calendar year 2021, and any temporary actions implemented in accordance with this delegation of authority will expire no later than December 31, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the requirement for the university to provide to the Board a report at least quarterly on the actions taken under Policy 4240 and corresponding financial and programmatic impacts be extended through December 31, 2021.

RECOMMENDATION:

That this resolution extending the President's time-limited delegation of authority through December 31, 2021, and applicable only to employees of the Athletics Department be approved.

June 8, 2021