

## RESOLUTION

### **State Tax Policy and Other Benefits between States for Section 529 Qualified Tuition Programs**

Urging any organization, public or private, entering a state to advocate that the state grant tax or other benefits to out-of-state section 529 qualified tuition programs first advise the public official responsible for administration of the state's plan of their intent to participate in the discussion of state tax or other benefits for section 529 qualified tuition programs.

**WHEREAS,** Congress created Section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code to enhance the ability of families to save and plan for future college expenses and explicitly established the control, administration, and public policy decisions of Section 529 Qualified Tuition Plans with the states; and

**WHEREAS,** The National Association of State Treasurers previously passed a resolution opposing any effort by Congress to impose tax parity at the federal level; and

**WHEREAS,** States provide a Section 529 Qualified Tuition Plan through duly enacted laws passed by each respective state's legislature; and

**WHEREAS,** Each state has the sovereign power to enact laws and develop public policy that best meets the needs of each state's citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** Many states offer state tax deductions, credits, exemptions, and other benefits to their citizens under the in-state Section 529 Qualified Tuition Plan as a recognition of the value of higher education and as a public affirmation of the quality of the in-state 529 Plan; and

**WHEREAS,** The cost of a college education continues to increase and states have helped their citizens by offsetting these increases with state tax incentives that are unique to each state's tax policy; and

**WHEREAS,** Many states have been forced to spend considerable time and resources to counteract the efforts of certain organizations that have entered states to advocate for state tax parity and that have disseminated information regarding the states' 529 programs that is not in the best interest of citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** Treasurers and other state officers are experts in public policy creation and implementation and have extensive knowledge and experience developing sound, sustainable state tax policy and are responsible for ensuring that the laws and policies meet the needs of the states and a majority of their citizens.

**Now therefore be it resolved,** that the National Association of State Treasurers urges any private or public organization entering a state to advocate that the state grant tax or other benefits to out-of-state section 529 qualified tuition programs first advise the public official responsible for administration of the state's plan of their intent to participate in the discussion of state tax or other benefits for section 529 qualified tuition programs.

Approved this 20<sup>th</sup> Day of October, 2015 by the  
National Association of State Treasurers

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Hon. David H. Lillard, Jr.  
NAST President &  
Tennessee State Treasurer