

# RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education recognizes the significant accomplishments of Dr. Ira H. Rubenzahl at the conclusion of his twelfth year as president of Springfield Technical Community College; and

**WHEREAS**, after earning his doctorate in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Dr. Rubenzahl spent several decades in higher education, including many years as a mathematics and physics professor, academic dean, and vice president at Greenfield Community College, and as president of Capital Community College in Connecticut, before becoming president of Springfield Technical Community College; and

**WHEREAS**, over the past twelve years, Dr. Rubenzahl has transformed Springfield Technical Community College, physically and otherwise, into a vibrant campus, increasing the number of undergraduate degree and certificate programs and graduates, as well as the diversity of the student body, faculty and administrative staff; and

**WHEREAS**, under Dr. Rubenzahl's leadership, Springfield Technical Community College became one of a handful of community colleges in the nation to achieve designation as a Hispanic Serving Institution, with Latino enrollment over 25 percent; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Rubenzahl's efforts and leadership in addressing the needs of the regional workforce led to the creation of a state-of-the-art Mechanical Engineering Technology Program Laboratory; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Rubenzahl has propelled the growth of the College as a regional leader in precision manufacturing education and has been recognized for his contributions, leadership, and vision with the dedication of the Dr. Ira Rubenzahl Precision Manufacturing Learning Laboratory at the College; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Rubenzahl's successful efforts to build strong collaborations between Holyoke Community College and Springfield Technical Community College produced the Training and Workforce Options (TWO) program, which received the 2015 Deval Patrick Award for Community Colleges from The Boston Foundation; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Rubenzahl has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Springfield Technical Community College Assistance Corporation in the Springfield Technology Park for twelve years and has forged numerous partnerships with private industry to support a regional workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Rubenzahl has worked tirelessly throughout his tenure and has demonstrated a profound commitment to what is best for students of the Commonwealth and its system of public higher education;

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT

*On behalf of the members of the Board of Higher Education, the Department staff, and the students and institutions of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education honors and commends Dr. Ira H. Rubenzahl on the occasion of his retirement from the presidency at Springfield Technical Community College.*

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Chris Gabrieli, Chairman  
Massachusetts Board of Higher Education

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Carlos E. Santiago, Commissioner  
Massachusetts Department of Higher Education

June 14, 2016