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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FRESNO CHAMBER PLEDGES FULL SUPPORT FOR MEASURE E

Business leaders pledge full support citing Fresno State as our region's largest economic driver, and an asset in which our entire community benefits from

Fresno, CA – Friday, January 26 - Today, the Fresno Chamber of Commerce pledged its support for Measure E – the Fresno State Improvement Zone Measure; recognizing the vital role that higher education plays in driving economic prosperity and fostering innovation within our community, the Chamber believes that this tax is a necessary investment in the future of our workforce and our community.

“Our Board of Directors voted overwhelming in support of Measure E because they understand the benefits that come from having a thriving University in our City,” stated Scott Miller, President & CEO of the Fresno Chamber of Commerce. “It is one of our largest economic drivers and a key asset to attracting businesses, and driving job creation in our region.”

Measure E is a 0.25% sales tax for Fresno County and will generate approximately \$63,000,000 annually for 25 years. These funds will be spent on deferred maintenance, new state-of-the art classrooms and labs in multiple colleges, an endowment for scholarships local students and veterans, in addition to other priorities.

“Fresno State has been a cornerstone of our community for decades, producing graduates who go on to be leaders in our community, and expanding the pipeline of skilled professionals that local businesses depend on,” stated Blair Smittcamp-Martin, Marketing and Special Projects Manager for Wawona Frozen Foods, and a Fresno Chamber Board Member. “This is an investment in our future workforce, in the private industries that depend on Fresno State, and in the future of our region.”

The Fresno Chamber of Commerce is one of the largest business organizations in the Central Valley, with approximately 1,000 member businesses representing over 78,000 employees. The Chamber's mission is to “promote and support the success of the regional business community through effective advocacy, education, and relationship building.”