

1 **RESOLUTION 22**

2 **Tenure**

3 *Committee 3 Employee Rights*

4 Whereas: tenure is a due process right guaranteed to public school teachers by Louisiana law,
5 including R.S. 17:441 through 17:446 for most public school teachers, and R.S. 17:461 17:464
6 for Orleans Parish teachers, and

7 Whereas: teacher tenure exists for two essential reasons: to protect educators from political or
8 personal retribution and to guarantee their academic freedom to teach according to the best
9 practices in their fields of expertise, and

10 Whereas: tenure is not granted automatically to teachers, but rather must be earned upon
11 successful conclusion of a closely monitored process that takes at least three years, and

12 Whereas: tenure is not an absolute right; procedures for revocation of tenure are listed in R.S.
13 17:441 through 17:446 and 17:464 through 17:464, and

14 Whereas: as a product of law, tenure may be modified by law in ways that could either improve
15 the profession of teaching or lead to a diminution of the professionalism of practitioners, and

16 Whereas: a recent, suspect report from the National Council for Teacher Quality identified tenure
17 as “complicit” in keeping “ineffective teachers” in the classroom, and

18 Whereas: that report and others like it are the basis for anticipated legislative assaults on the state
19 laws that created tenure rights, and

20 Whereas: the Louisiana Federation of Teachers has a duty to protect and improve the profession
21 of teaching; therefore, be it

22 Resolved: that the Louisiana Federation of Teachers support any legislative proposals that
23 preserve and improve the rights granted to teachers by tenure laws, and oppose any initiatives
24 that do not preserve and improve tenure rights.

25 Submitted by: Louisiana Federation of Teachers, November 2009

26 Adopted _____ Defeated _____ Tabled_____