

Whereas the mission of the Peralta Community College District explicitly states that we will “provide our diverse students and communities with equitable access to educational resources, experiences, and life-long opportunities to meet and exceed their goals;” and

Whereas on February 15, 2011 the Board of Trustees of the Peralta Community College District by unanimous vote passed a resolution in support of the California Dream Act (AB 130 and AB 131) and in support of full access to Peralta’s educational resources for all students in our service area; and

Whereas, the California Dream Act was subsequently enacted into law authorizing qualifying undocumented college students to apply for institutional financial aid and Cal Grants from the University of California, California State University and Community Colleges; and

Whereas, under AB 540 many undocumented students already qualify for in-State tuition; and

Whereas, on June 15, 2012 President Barack Obama announced that his administration was taking new actions “to mend our nation’s immigration policy, to make it more fair, more efficient and more just, specifically for certain young people sometimes called DREAMers;” and

Whereas President Obama announced that “Effective immediately, the Department of Homeland Security is taking steps to lift the shadow of deportation from these young people” by suspending deportation proceedings for federal “Dream Act” students and providing a way for these students to apply for work authorization; and

Whereas the educational success of Peralta’s undocumented/AB 540 students will be enhanced to the extent that they can step out of the shadows and afford themselves of the educational and economic opportunities available to legal citizens; and

Whereas the social and educational fabric and economic well-being of our local community (as well as those of the state and nation) will be strengthened by providing educational opportunities to all students regardless of immigration status;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Peralta Colleges applauds the inclusive direction of President Obama’s June 15, 2012 immigration policy statement; and

Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Peralta Colleges encourages the speedy passage of the federal Dream Act and urges that the Obama Administration use the full power of the presidency to bring about its passage; and

Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Peralta Colleges directs the Administration of the Peralta Colleges to direct appropriate lobbying resources to encourage the passage of the Federal Dream Act; and

Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Peralta Colleges directs the Administration of the Peralta Colleges to present the board with an ongoing and concrete plan to promote the outreach to and integration into our District of our local AB 540 students, including a plan for specialized educational counseling tailored to the needs of undocumented students; and

Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Peralta Colleges encourages that the Administration of the Peralta Colleges in developing said plan include the maximum feasible participation of the affected student population as well as the on-the-ground experience of our student services professionals; and

Be it further resolved that the Board of Trustees of the Peralta Colleges directs the Administration of the Peralta Colleges to present said plan to the Board *no later than* the first December 2012 meeting of the Peralta Colleges Board of Trustees.