

Peralta Community College District Board Resolution 12/13-6
Support for Equitable Student Access for All Students

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;

Whereas AB 540 students comprise a diverse and wide range of ethnic, racial, geographic and national student populations and Peralta is committed to the full success of all students;

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

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 17th day of July, 2012, by a unanimous vote of the Board.

AYES: Trustees González Yuen, Guillén, Gulassa, Handy, Hodge, Riley and Withrow.

Secretary of the Board of Trustees
Peralta Community College District
Alameda County
State of California