Resolution No. 2017.01
Resolution in Support of California Dream Act and Deferred Action for Childhood (DACA) Students and Programs

WHEREAS, the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees supports and values the District’s mission in providing students with access to comprehensive quality educational opportunities that support student learning and student success, including its more than 50,000 students, including DACA and Dream Act students; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 540, passed in 2001, allows for undocumented students or those who have U.S. Citizen/Permanent Resident status, meeting specific requirements, to pay resident fees and apply for privately-funded scholarships, and assistance from EOPS, CARE, or CalWORKs, and other state aid; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 130 and Assembly Bill 131, passed in 2011 by the California legislature and known as the Dream Act, increases opportunities for some Assembly Bill 540 students to receive financial aid; and

WHEREAS, the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees is concerned about potential actions under consideration, including the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, rooted in the fundamental premise that no one should be punished for the actions of others; and

WHEREAS, the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office has reassured students and colleges that our campuses will remain safe welcoming places for students of all backgrounds to learn; informed them that no changes have been made with regard to admissions or financial aid; informed students that financial aid for certain undocumented students is protected by state law; called on the President to preserve Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals; and the VCCCD has joined with the University of California, the California State University and the California Community Colleges to defend the right of all students to obtain a higher education in California.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees supports continuation of the DACA Program, continuation of opportunities for Dream Act students, and continuation of services for students and families in pursuit of the American Dream of higher education, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, immigration status, age, gender, language, socioeconomic status, gender identity or expression, medical condition or disability.

Adopted March 7, 2017:

Bernardo M. Perez, Chair
Stephen P. Blum, Esq., Trustee
Dianne B. McKay, Trustee

Arturo D. Hernández, Vice Chair
Larry Kennedy, Trustee

Bernard Luskin, Ed.D., Chancellor