

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES
No. 2018-05**

WHEREAS, the California Community Colleges is committed to providing an open and welcoming environment for all students, regardless of ethnicity, religion, national origin, immigration status, age gender, language, socio-economic status, gender identity or expression, medical condition or disability; and

WHEREAS, the Trump Administration's decision on September 5, 2017, to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, placed the safety, security and educational future of thousands of undocumented students in doubt; and

WHEREAS, the California Community Colleges have advocated to Congress and the Administration to preserve DACA and respect the contributions of undocumented immigrants, and on January 26, 2017, the Board of Governors passed a resolution expressing its support for DACA and firm commitment to serving all students who can benefit from a postsecondary education; and

WHEREAS, in September 2017, the California Community Colleges' Chancellor issued a Statement of Values and Commitment to Undocumented Students reaffirming the Chancellor's Office will not release any personally identifiable student information without a judicial warrant including data related to immigration status, will not cooperate with any federal effort to create a registry of individuals based on protected characteristics such as religion, race, immigration status, or sexual orientation, and will urge local governing bodies to do the same; and

WHEREAS, numerous community colleges reflecting the diversity of California have adopted policies and procedures consistent with protecting immigrant students and created partnerships with community organizations to help our undocumented students access legal assistance and other services in local communities; and

WHEREAS, the Chancellor's Office, in partnership with the Community College League of California, the Faculty Association of California Community Colleges, the Student Senate of California Community Colleges, and other organizations, sponsored DACA Advocacy Week, October 16-20, 2017, and provided tools such as Congressional contact lists, sample talking points, resolutions, and communications to mobilize the system in support of DACA; and

WHEREAS, the 2017 DACA Advocacy Week efforts resulted in local meetings with Congressional leaders, more than 700 letters and postcards sent from students to members of Congress, and a number of colleges conducting week-long activities to raise awareness of campus-based support for undocumented students;

WHEREAS, despite efforts by the California Community Colleges and many other individuals and organizations in California and across the nation, the preservation of DACA and the adoption of an effective solution for undocumented students remains elusive, which places continued economic and emotional weight on students, their families, communities, and the state; therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Board of Governors declare October 15-19, 2018, as “Undocumented Students Week of Action” to work in partnership with other organizations and encourage the California Community Colleges to engage in activities supporting undocumented students; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Board of Governors supports work by the Chancellor’s Office to identify and share best practices for assisting undocumented students, disseminate information to the colleges about how to access funding for immigration defense proceedings and referral to legal service providers; and reinforce state policies that protect student’s rights and privacy; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Chancellor’s Office is renewing its commitment to actions that raise awareness about opportunities for all Californians to enroll and succeed in postsecondary education, and is providing information specific to the undocumented student population about community college support services as well as external services and resources; and therefore, be it further

RESOLVED that the Board of Governors urge Congressional members to uphold California values and create a pathway to citizenship for undocumented students, which will permit them to achieve their highest potential.

Dated: September 17, 2018

Tom Epstein, President
Board of Governors California Community Colleges