

# RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, California ranks 49th in four-year college enrollment and 45th in Bachelor degree attainment within the college-aged population; and

WHEREAS, the value of a college degree has never been higher, as there is a \$4.50 return to the State for every \$1 invested in a California college student; and

WHEREAS, employers in California demand better-skilled workers, yet the public universities in the State cannot accommodate all eligible students to meet the projected demand for employees with bachelor's degrees; and

WHEREAS, the California State University (CSU) is the largest four-year public university system in the United States and awards approximately half of the bachelor's degrees, one-third of the master's degrees, and nearly two percent of the doctoral degrees awarded annually in California; and

WHEREAS, the CSU system offers a gateway to well-paying jobs for thousands of first generation students, students of color, students living in poverty, and students from immigrant families while serving as role models for younger family members; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the 1960 California Master Plan of Higher Education, the CSU accepts the top one-third of the State's high school graduates; and

WHEREAS, the Master Plan has come under increasing strain, as an estimated 170,000 CSU-eligible students have been denied admission to the university between 2009-2015 as a result of budget limitations and impacted majors and campuses; and

WHEREAS, while State funding to the CSU have increased as the economy continues to recover from the economic downturn, State funding has not yet reached pre-recession levels while demand for bachelor's degrees continues to increase; and

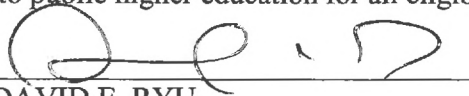
WHEREAS, continued budget shortfalls could result in tens of thousands of Los Angeles high school graduates being denied admissions to the university; and

WHEREAS, funding levels for the CSU in the 2016-17 Proposed State Budget are insufficient to meet demand; and

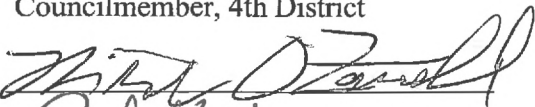
WHEREAS, the Legislature should increase funding to CSU to eliminate impaction and update the Master Plan to ensure that all eligible students are able to attend;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-2016 State Legislative Program SUPPORT and/or SPONSORSHIP of legislation that would: (1) allocate additional funding to the California State University system in order to eliminate impaction, and (2) update the California Master Plan for Higher Education to ensure access to public higher education for all eligible students.

PRESENTED BY:

  
DAVID E. RYU  
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY:

  
Paul Kretz

  
APR 22 2016

BMR

ORIGINAL