

RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

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, students at California community colleges are more likely to be the first in their family to attend college, be in need of retraining, come from an immigrant background, or be financially disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, major factors in a student's enrollment and ultimate success in college is affordability, including fees and tuition, textbooks and transportation, housing and food, and other related costs; and

WHEREAS, President Obama has introduced the America's College Promise Proposal, undertaken in partnership with States, which will allow students to earn the first half of a bachelor's degree or learn skills needed in the workforce for free; and

WHEREAS, in January 2016, the Los Angeles Community College District, Board of Trustees, passed a Resolution to enhance college access and completion for Los Angeles area residents and students of the district's nine colleges by establishing the Los Angeles College Promise, a nonpartisan, local and state-led initiative to ensure that higher education becomes a reality for students of the Los Angeles Community College District; and

WHEREAS, HR 2962 (Scott) known as the America's College Promise Act has been introduced which will make the first two years of community college free for students; and

WHEREAS, S 1716 (Baldwin) has been introduced that also supports the America's College Promise Act; and

WHEREAS, AB 1721 (Medina) has been introduced to form the California College Promise Program which will help reform the Cal Grant B program to better serve California community college students by increasing the access award level and number of competitive Cal Grants available, and expand access to the transfer entitlement program by raising the age limit and extending the application deadline; and

WHEREAS, AB 1892 (Medina) also has been introduced that supports the formation of the California College Promise Program which will help reform the Cal Grant C program to better serve California community college students in Career Technical Education programs by creating an entitlement program for financially disadvantaged students and increase the access award level; and

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WHEREAS, the Los Angeles Community College District board is on record to support the federal legislation, America's College Promise Act that builds upon President Obama's plan to provide college tuition and fees for qualified community college students; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles Community College District, Board of Trustees is also supporting and advocating for legislation in California that provides the framework and sustainable funding for a statewide California Promise Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-16 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 1721 (Medina) and AB 1892 (Medina) that both support the California College Promise Program which will reform the Cal Grant system to address completion barriers by helping California community college students take more classes and be academically successful; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, with concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-16 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for HR 2962 (Scott) and S 1716 (Baldwin) that both support the America's College Promise Act which proposes that the first two years of a community college be free.

PRESENTED BY:



PAUL KORETZ

Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:

