

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
IN SUPPORT OF STUDENT ACCESS AND PROTECTION**

RESOLUTION NO. 38-16/17

WHEREAS, the California Community Colleges system is committed to serving all students who can benefit from a post-secondary education, without regard to ethnic group identification, national origin, religion, age, gender, gender identity, gender expression, race or ethnicity, color, genetic information, ancestry, sexual orientation, or physical or mental disability, pregnancy, or any characteristic listed or defined in Section 11135 of the Government Code or any characteristic that is contained in the prohibition of hate crimes set forth in subdivision (a) of Section 422.6 of the Penal Code.; and

WHEREAS, Riverside Community College District is the 7th oldest and 5th largest community college district in the California Community College System with three accredited colleges of Moreno Valley College, Norco College and Riverside City College; and

WHEREAS, the California Community Colleges Board of Governors has adopted a strategic plan which states, in part: “All people have the opportunity to reach their full educational potential... The Colleges embrace diversity in all its forms ... All people have the right to access quality higher education;” and

WHEREAS, California’s diversity is a great source of innovation and industry, making California one of the largest economies in the world and an economic engine for the United States; and

WHEREAS, approximately one tenth of California’s workforce is undocumented and contributes \$130 billion annually to its gross domestic product, according to the California Assembly; and

WHEREAS, great uncertainty exists about what specific immigration and education policies will be pursued by the incoming administration, and immigrants and other populations within the community college system are fearful of policies that may result in deportation or forced registration based on their religion; and

WHEREAS, over the past several weeks, the Chancellor’s Office of Riverside Community College District and 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 President Donald J. Trump to preserve the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Executive Order; and the state Chancellor’s Office joined with the University of California and the California State University to defend the right of all students to obtain a higher education in California;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Riverside Community College District agrees and conforms to the declaration by the California Community Colleges Board of Governors that all 113 community colleges remain open, safe and welcoming to all students who meet the minimum requirements for admission, regardless of immigration status, and that financial aid remains available to certain undocumented students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Riverside Community College District urges the incoming administration to continue the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, which grants “Dreamers” – people who were brought to this country as children by their parents – reprieve from deportation because California and the United States are stronger due to their contributions to our economy, to our communities and to our Armed Forces; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Riverside Community College District and its three colleges shall not release any personally identifiable student information related to immigration status without a judicial warrant, subpoena or court order, unless authorized by the student or required by process of law; nor shall the District enter into any agreement with Federal, State or local law enforcement agencies regarding immigration matters; and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Riverside Community College District and its three colleges shall not cooperate with any efforts to create a registry of individuals based on any protected characteristics such as religion, national origin, race, or sexual orientation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Riverside Community College District affirms that that all students have an opportunity to receive an education in the community college system, regardless of immigration status and any other protected status; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Riverside Community College District affirms the California Community College Board of Governor's system's stated values for responding to any request to participate in joint efforts with other government agencies to enforce federal immigration law and when responding to requests for personally identifiable student information; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Riverside Community College District and its three colleges shall vigorously advocate at every level of government to protect our students and our system's values.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 21st day of February 2017, at the regular meeting of the Riverside Community College District Board of Trustees.



President of the Board of Trustees
Riverside Community College District