



League of United Latin American Citizens

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT TEXAS DREAM ACT

WHEREAS, The American dream holds that there are no limits to what one can achieve through hard work and individual merit , and for a great majority of Americans , a quality education is integrally linked to future success, and

WHEREAS, Although the advantages that a higher education affords are well known, immigrant students across much of the country are impeded in their efforts to take this crucial step in their career paths; brought to the United States as children, these youths have hopes and aspirations like their U.S.-born peers , and their numbers include valedictorians , honor students, and student body leaders; they had no choice in their parents' decision to enter the United States , yet with few options for allaying the cost of tuition, they are uniquely limited in their ability to pursue a postsecondary education that would allow them meaningful integration into the workforce, and

WHEREAS, In 2001, Texas became the first state to adopt a law, H. B. 1403, 77th Legislature , Regular Session, that allowed all resident students, regardless of immigration status , to qualify for in- state tuition and financial aid at public colleges and universities; passed with bipartisan support and later known as the Texas Dream Act , this landmark measure has since inspired the creation of similar laws , with more than a dozen other states now extending in-state tuition rates to undocumented youths, and

WHEREAS, The reforms introduced by the Texas Dream Act represent sound fiscal policy, as immigrants constitute a talented, multilingual, and multicultural subset of workers who bring valuable skills to an increasingly global economy; such policy allows taxpayers to see a return on years of investment in the public school education of these individuals, for by improving their earning potential, they will in turn provide for a more robust tax base, and

WHEREAS, According to a 2006 report by the Office of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts, undocumented immigrants in Texas in 2005 generated more in state revenue than they received in state services ; in the

2010 fiscal year, close to 16, 500 undocumented immigrant students qualified for in-state tuition, and the students themselves paid \$32.7 million in tuition and related expenses; were these students to be deprived of the incentives offered by the Texas Dream Act, the loss to the Texas economy would be considerable, as workers with lower level s of education earn drastically reduced wages on average and face significantly higher rates of unemployment, forcing them to rely more heavily on social services, and

WHEREAS, The strength of our economy rests on an educated workforce , and the Texas Dream Act provides a commonsense approach to ensure that intelligent and enterprising youth have access to the training and education that businesses need;.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby affirm its support for the Texas Dream Act and urge all other U.S. states to enact similar legislation.

SUBMITTED AND ADOPTED, by the duly elected representatives of the membership of the League of United Latin American Citizens at the 2015 Annual Convention convened on the 18th day of April in the City of Dallas as per the LULAC Constitution and Bylaws.

Voted and approved at the 2015 National LULAC Convention - July 11, 2015.

Roger C. Rocha, Jr.
LULAC National President