

California #6

Resolution

To Support the Dream Act, and California SB-160 (Cedillo Bill) and the Student Adjustment Act

Whereas, the Dream Act was first introduced in the Senate 2001 and Congress failed to act for its approval; and the Student Adjustment Act was introduced in the House of Representatives,

Whereas, this Dream Act and the Adjustment Act will again be introduced in 2005 - with essentially the same elements within its body, that is to permit high school graduates who immigrated to the United States as minors and lived in the country for at least five years, to apply for legal pre-citizenship status;

Whereas, students lacking their citizenship status should have equal opportunity to pursue post secondary education, obtain legal status, and become citizens of the country they call home - the United States of America,

Whereas, individuals who were brought to the United States as children, stay out of trouble and meet the universal requirements for high school graduation deserve to be judged according to their own character and merit, regardless of their country of birth or immigrant status;

Whereas, Santa Ana LULAC No. 147 in energizing its members to assist the student-driven Dream Team to concentrate in obtaining community and legislative support for the Act;

Whereas, the California Dream Act would reduce the dropout rate of immigrant students, the children of undocumented immigrants, who are far more likely to drop out of high school than their California counterparts,

Whereas, the California Dream Act would provide a mechanism for certain long term resident immigrant students to attend a four year institution with the goal of obtaining a bachelors Degree and ultimately giving them the opportunity to rise above from the under represented sector of the population,

Whereas, by enacting the California Dream Act the Regents of the University of California and the Board of Governors of the Community Colleges would recognize what is "de facto" true, those undocumented California Residents belong in the California's higher education system,

Whereas, these students cannot wait until Congress solves all the problems of our broken immigration system and if Congress fails to act this year another entire class of outstanding high school students would graduate without any future plans,

Whereas, the California Dream Act would request regents of the University of California to establish procedures that enable persons who are exempt from paying on resident tuition to participate on all student aid programs administered by the regents,

Therefore, be it resolved that California LULAC endorses the Legislative Bill yet to be introduced that will allow thousands of young students to realize their educational dreams;

Therefore, be it resolved that Councils be encouraged to assist in the efforts of the Orange County Dream Team by signing up as counsel supporters;

Therefore, be it resolved that California LULAC at its 58 annual Convention support State Senator Gil Cedillo's Senate Bill SB160 which would address the education and financial assistance of undocumented students attempting to enter higher education; and further urges NATIONAL LULAC TO SUPPORT CALIFORNIA EFFORTS TO PASS A CALIFORNIA DREAM ACT. (AQL)

Submitted by

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