**Associated Students, SJSU, Board of Directors’ Resolution 17/18-01**

**Resolution in Support of the DREAM Act of 2017**

**Whereas,** On June 15, 2012 President Obama announced an executive order, known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), that changed the immigration policy to allow qualified young adults to remain in the country without the fear of deportation and grant temporary work permits[[1]](#footnote-1); and

**Whereas,** It is the mission of the Associated Students of San José State University to represent the students at San José State University and continually improves the quality of their educational opportunities and experience; and

**Whereas,** It is the mission of the California State University to prepare significant numbers of educated, responsible people to contribute to California’s schools, economy, culture, and future, as well as to encourage and provide access to an excellent education to all who are prepared for and wish to participate in collegiate study[[2]](#footnote-2); and

**Whereas,** On September 5, 2017, the Trump Administration issued an order to end the program entitled “Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals” (DACA) and phase it out over the next 2.5 years[[3]](#footnote-3); and

**Whereas,** The ending of DACA would overturn those dreams and goals for an estimated 800,000 people in the United States; and

**Whereas,** San José State University has over 600 enrolled students who meet the requirements of AB 540 or AB 2000, which qualifies students for in-state tuition, and/or the California Dream Act, which deems them eligible for in-state financial aid; and

**Whereas,** The first version of the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act (DREAM) was introduced in 2001 by Senators Durbin and Hatch[[4]](#footnote-4); and

**Whereas,** The DREAM Act of 2017 would direct Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to cancel removal and grant lawful permanent resident status on a conditional basis to an undocumented immigrant who is inadmissible or deportable or is in temporary protected status who: (1) has been continuously physically present in the United States for four years preceding this bill's enactment; (2) was younger than 18 years of age on the initial date of U.S. entry; (3) is not inadmissible on criminal, security, terrorism, or other grounds; (4) has not participated in persecution; (5) has not been convicted of specified federal or state offenses; and (6) has fulfilled specified educational requirements[[5]](#footnote-5); and

**Whereas,** The DREAM Act of 2017 would grant recipients an initial conditional permanent resident (CPR) status for eight years, to be eligible, applicants would have to be undocumented, a DACA recipient, or a TPS beneficiary (people with final removal orders, voluntary departure orders, or who are in removal proceedings would be eligible), have entered the U.S. before the age of 18, have been continuously physically present in the U.S. since at least four years before the date of the DREAM Act’s enactment, have maintained continuous presence in the U.S. until the date they apply, meet the education requirements through one of these ways: they’ve been admitted to a college, university, or other institution of higher learning, or they’ve earned a high school diploma or general education development (GED) certificate, or they are currently enrolled in a secondary education program to assist in obtaining a high school diploma or GED certificate, have not been convicted of certain criminal offenses, pass a medical exam, pass a background check[[6]](#footnote-6); and

**Whereas,** Anyone who maintains CPR status can obtain lawful permanent residence (LPR) by satisfying the following requirements: not have certain criminal convictions on their record, not have abandoned their residence in the U.S, have done one of the following: acquired a degree from an institution of higher education, completed at least 2 years in a bachelor’s degree program, or served for at least 2 years in the uniformed services, been employed for periods totaling at least 3 years, at least 75 percent of which time was working with valid employment authorization (If the person was not working, they must show that they were enrolled in school or an education program.); a hardship exception may be available for people who do not meet at least one of the four requirements listed immediately above, demonstrate the ability to read, write and speak English and show a knowledge and understanding of U.S. civics, and pass a background check[[7]](#footnote-7); and;

**Whereas,** The DREAM Act of 2017 would improve college affordability for undocumented students by repealing section 505 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA), which currently discourages states from making undocumented students eligible for in-state tuition or providing them other higher education benefits; and

**Whereas,** The DREAM Act of 2017 will provide a 13-year pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants; therefore, be it

***Resolved*,** That the Associated Students of San José State University supports the DREAM Act of 2017 and stands in unanimity with undocumented immigrants in our nation; therefore, be it

***Resolved*,** That the Associated Students of San José State University requests for the United States Congress to act in passing a “clean”[[8]](#footnote-8) version of the DREAM Act of 2017; therefore, be it

***Resolved,*** That the Associated Students of San José State University will create and operate a full scale advocacy plan around the promotion and implementation of the DREAM Act of 2017. Provide and foster appropriate collaboration and support within the various University departments for the undocumented student community; therefore, be it

***Resolved*,** That we, as a unified Spartan community, refuse to marginalize members of our community on the basis of their immigration status, therefore be it

***Resolved,*** We will ensure that San José State University is a welcoming and inclusive environment for everyone; let it be finally

***Resolved***, That Associated Students will make this document public and will forward this resolution to all affected parties, including: San José State President Papazian, Governor Jerry Brown, California State Legislators, California State University Chancellor Timothy P. White, CSU Statewide Academic Senate, San José Mercury News, Spartan Daily, San José City Council, San José District Representatives, California Congressman, and Senators Kamala Harris and Dianne Feinstein.

Respectfully submitted by:

The A.S. Internal Affairs Committee

Supported by:

**Passed and Adopted by the Associated Students of San José State University**

**Board of Directors at a regular meeting held October 25, 2017 by a vote of**

**14-Yea 0-Nay 0-Abstention 0-Absent**

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Cristina Cortes, Vice President and Chair Date

Associated Students, SJSU

1. http://www.nytimes.com/2012/06/16/us/us-to-stop-deporting-some-illegal-immigrants.html?mcubz=3 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. http://www.calstate.edu/explore/missions.shtml [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. http://www.npr.org/2017/09/05/546423550/trump-signals-end-to-daca-calls-on-congress-to-act [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. https://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2017/08/28/437956/daca-recipients-economic-educational-gains-continue-grow/ [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1615 [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. https://www.nilc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/DreamAct2017-summary-and-facts-2017-07-24.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. https://www.nilc.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/DreamAct2017-summary-and-facts-2017-07-24.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. https://www.senate.gov/reference/glossary\_term/clean\_bill.htm [↑](#footnote-ref-8)