WHEREAS, On September 5, 2017, the Trump Administration ordered an end to the
program known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, or DACA, and the Administration has
urged Congress to identify a replacement within six months before the Administration phases out
DACA’s protections. The outcome will determine the legal status and ultimate fate of approximately
800,000 immigrants known as “Dreamers” who were brought to the United States as children and
who are eligible - under the existing DACA program - to apply for temporary residency in the
United States; and
WHEREAS, in an act of faith and trust in America’s promise of opportunity and the
historical legal principle of not punishing children for the actions of their parents and/or guardians,
“Dreamers” gave their names, addresses and telephone numbers to the United States Government
to participate in the DACA program; and
WHEREAS, the callous decision by the Trump Administration to end the Deferred Action
on Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program is antithetical to American values and abandons the
promise made to over 800,000 individuals pursuing the American Dream; and
WHEREAS, the average DACA recipient immigrated to the United States when they were
six years old and has spent the majority of his or her life living in the U.S.; and
WHEREAS, the DACA Program has offered the opportunity for hundreds of thousands of
Americans to reach their educational goals regardless of their immigration status; and
WHEREAS, the shortsighted political calculation of ending DACA inhibits the aspirations
of 222,795 Californians including the 72,000 estimated to be California community college students; and
WHEREAS, our vision for California’s community colleges is to provide access to a quality
public higher education for all Californians, and as the largest public system of higher education in
the U.S., we take great pride in being the pathway to opportunity for Californians of all
backgrounds; and
WHEREAS, a study of DACA recipients by the University of California, San Diego, found
that the incomes of those participating in the program increased by 45%; and
WHEREAS, a recent analysis by the CATO Institute found that the U.S. economy could be
reduced by $215 billion, and the federal government would lose $60 billion in tax revenues with the
elimination of DACA; and
WHEREAS, DACA recipients are ineligible for federally funded financial aid programs
such as subsidized loans, grants, scholarships or work study, subsidies provided by the Affordable
Care Act, Medicaid, food stamps or cash assistance, despite paying income, sales and other taxes;
and
WHEREAS, seventy percent of DACA recipients are in school and 92% of them identify
DACA as permitting them to pursue educational opportunities previously unavailable; and
WHEREAS, to qualify for DACA eligible applicants must not have been convicted a felony or misdemeanor of violence or moral turpitude, have been brought into the country under the age of 16, have lived continuously in the United States since 2007 and have to be either currently in school, have graduated from high school, and are currently serving or have been honorably discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces; and
WHEREAS, President Trump has put the educational goals and career aspirations of hundreds of thousands of Californians on hold and their future and America’s economy at risk; and
WHEREAS, we remain steadfast in our commitment to educational opportunity and will stand with “Dreamers” to protect quality public community colleges for all Californians;
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Riverside Community College District Board of Trustees, hereby urge the Congress of the United States, and our State and local leaders - in keeping with the highest and best traditions of our pluralistic constitutional democracy - to acknowledge and accept the moral imperative of relieving these victims of circumstance from the fear of deportation, and to provide our nation’s “Dreamers” with continued relief from deportation, and a path to permanent citizenship, as promised; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Riverside Community College District Board of Trustees urges California’s Congressional members to uphold California values, and to fill the leadership void created by President Trump’s decision, and to codify protections contained within the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program that will permit thousands of California “Dreamers” to achieve their highest potential.
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 3rd day of October 2017, at the regular meeting of the Riverside Community College District Board of Trustees.

[Signature]

President of the Board of Trustees
Riverside Community College District