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Sponsoring Senator(s): John Oltean, Senator for Gould School of Law

Additional Sponsors: Graduate Student Government Executive Board 2017-2018

Date: Monday, February 26, 2018

RE: Resolution Regarding the Creation of a University Task Force

WHEREAS, the actions taken by President Trump during his time spent in office, including the travel ban, the rescission of TPS for Salvadoran, Nicaraguan, and Haitian immigrants, and the rescission of DACA, create an urgent need for administrative action to protect undocumented students, and;

WHEREAS, various universities and colleges have released specific, long term, and transparent plans for ensuring the rights of undocumented students, and;

WHEREAS, the University of Southern California President C.L. Max Nikias and Provost Michael Quick each issued statements signaling their strong support for all members of our community regardless of their immigration status¹, and;

WHEREAS, Provost Quick's Memo to the USC Community Regarding DACA stated that it is the University's goal to ensure that all of our students are provided with a safe and nurturing environment, and access to financial support and other resources, so that they may thrive and achieve their full potential², and;

WHEREAS, Provost Quick's Memo to the USC Community Regarding DACA also stated that everyone should have access to higher education and that the University

¹ <https://www.provost.usc.edu/memo-students-faculty-staff-daca-resources/>

² <https://www.provost.usc.edu/memo-students-faculty-staff-daca-resources/>

of Southern California has a critical role to play as a preeminent private university focused on the public good³, and;

WHEREAS, the University created the Provost's Advisory Task Force on Immigration Issues to advise the administration on policies and plans of action that can be taken to support our university community in response to potential changes in immigration policy⁴, and;

WHEREAS, Provost Quick has appointed Vanessa Brake, Associate Dean of Religious Life, as the point person to coordinate and implement efforts across campus that support immigrant and international students⁵, and;

WHEREAS, the administration has asked the USC Gould School of Law Immigration Clinic to provide campus training and leadership on DACA-specific issues as the Trump administration's policies continue to develop⁶, and;

WHEREAS, the university has provided additional funding to the USC Center for Immigrant Integration to organize town hall meetings⁷, and;

WHEREAS, the administration has stated that the goal of these town hall meetings is to make USC the "public square for Los Angeles" on the issues and viewpoints surrounding immigration and immigrant integration, and⁸;

WHEREAS, a pop up DREAMer Center has been created by students to provide a safe space and resources to undocumented undergraduate and graduate students, and;

WHEREAS, the GSG Director of Globalization and Inclusion has established an Immigration Law and Advocacy Task Force to advocate for undocumented students following the rescission of DACA⁹, and;

³ Id.

⁴ <http://www.provost.usc.edu/naturalization-at-usc/>

⁵ <http://www.provost.usc.edu/naturalization-at-usc/>

⁶ <https://www.provost.usc.edu/memo-to-the-usc-community-regarding-daca/>

⁷ <https://www.provost.usc.edu/memo-to-the-usc-community-regarding-daca/>

⁸ <https://www.provost.usc.edu/memo-to-the-usc-community-regarding-daca/>

⁹ <http://gsg.usc.edu/get-involved/committees/>

WHEREAS, the GSG established the GSG Emergency Fund to Support Undocumented and International Students, which was intended to provide financial assistance for undocumented students who applied for DACA¹⁰, therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED, that GSG strongly encourages our campus and other universities to continue to utilize policies that:

- protect and prohibit the release of information regarding the immigration status of our students and campus community members regardless of circumstance, and
- prohibit employees from assisting with immigration authorities regarding deportations or raids, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that GSG express our continued support for Assembly Bills 540/2000, which allow undocumented students to pay in-state tuition under certain circumstances, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that GSG express our continued support for the California Dream Act and associated legislation, which allows AB 540/2000 students access to state-based financial aid and loans, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that GSG strongly opposes any proposed reductions in federal funding to the state of California or any of the state institutions of higher education suggested by President Trump because of their position on immigration policy and enforcement, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that GSG and USC administration continue to invest in resources to provide information on legal assistance/guidance to undocumented students and campus community members regarding their or their family's immigration status, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that GSG ask Vanessa Brake for an update on the efforts being undertaken by the university to coordinate and implement supports for immigrant and international students, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that GSG ask the administration to officially recognize and sanction the existence of the DREAMer center, and that GSG ask the

¹⁰ <http://gsg.usc.edu/emergency-fund-program/>

administration to create an official undocumented students' resource page on the Student Affairs website, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that GSG set aside \$1,000 to cover startup expenses and event programming for the popup DREAMer center, and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that GSG set aside an additional \$1,000 to support the "town hall" meeting planned for 2018, and;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that GSG distribute this resolution to the Governor of California, the Speaker of the California State Assembly, the California Senate President pro Tempore, the Mayor of Los Angeles, the USC Chancellor, the USC Board of Trustees, USC President Max Nikias, the California State Student Association (CSSA), and President Donald J. Trump.