

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE DREAM ACT AND THE
WASHINGTON STATE DREAM ACT**

1 **WHEREAS** many undocumented American youth arrive in this country and this state
2 through the decision of their parents to relocate in search of opportunities to improve
3 their lives and futures and;

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5 **WHEREAS** many of these young people have no mechanism to obtain legal residency,
6 even when they have lived the United States most of their lives and have built
7 relationships, families, businesses, and have contributed to communities and;

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9 **WHEREAS** these young people should not be punished for their parents decision to
10 enter the United States and;

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12 **WHEREAS** the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals initiative instituted by President
13 Obama is a first step in a process to ensure that American youth who grew up
14 undocumented in the United States are given the same opportunities as their peers, and;

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16 **WHEREAS** attempts to pass the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors
17 (DREAM) Act have stalled in Congress, and the Washington State Legislature is
18 currently considering a “Washington State DREAM Act” that would expand access to
19 higher education for undocumented young immigrants who have lived in Washington for
20 the majority of their lives, and;

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22 **WHEREAS** passage of the DREAM Act by Congress would add \$329 billion to the US
23 economy, create 1.4 million new jobs, and help DREAMers earn 19 percent more by
24 2030, and;¹

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26 **WHEREAS** “an increase in college-educated immigrants directly increases U.S. gross
27 domestic product... [by] 1.4 to 2.4 percent,” and;²

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29 **WHEREAS** there are approximately 40,000 eligible DREAMers in Washington State,
30 and passage of the DREAM Act in Congress would add \$5.7 billion to the Washington
31 State economy alone.³

¹ Guzman, Juan Carlos, and Jara, Raul C. “The Economic Benefits of Passing the DREAM Act.” September 30, 2012.

Center for American Progress.

<http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/report/2012/09/30/39567/the-economic-benefits-of-passing-the-dream-act/>

² Ibid

³ Guzman, Juan Carlos, and Jara, Raul C. “The State Economic Benefits of Passing the DREAM Act.” October 1, 2012. Center for American Progress.

<http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/immigration/news/2012/10/01/39215/the-state-economic-benefits-of-passing-the-dream-act/>

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THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Associated Students of Western Washington University call on the Washington State Congressional Delegation to support and advocate for the Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act (DREAM Act) in their respective Chambers.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Associated Students of WWU call on the Honorable Governor Jay Inslee and all Washington State Legislators, in particular Majority Coalition Caucus Leader Senator Rodney Tom and Senate Republican Leader Mark Schoesler, to support and advocate for the passage of HB 1817 also known as the “Washington State DREAM Act.”

BE IT EVEN FURTHER RESOLVED that the Associated Student Senate request that the Board of Directors for the Associated Students of Western Washington University take action on this resolution by sending copies of this resolution on behalf of the Associated Students of Western Washington University to each Senator and Congressional Representative of Washington State; the Majority Coalition Caucus, Democratic Caucus, and Republican Caucus Leaders of the Washington State House of Representatives and Senate; and Governor Jay Inslee.

Senate Chair

Senate Vice Chair