Resolution No. 2013-01  
on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals, 5/7/2013

WHEREAS the June 2012 Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals policy announced by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security provides temporary lawful presence and work permits to thousands of young Ohio immigrants, and;

WHEREAS under the current Ohio Revised Code §3333.31 and Ohio Administrative Code §3333-1-10, DACA recipients qualify as “non-immigrant aliens” residents for tuition subsidy and surcharge purposes, and

WHEREAS there are approximately 1,555 recipients of DACA living in in Ohio (1), and;

WHEREAS more than 85% of young immigrants eligible for DACA are Latinos (2), and;

WHEREAS Ohio public institutions of higher learning do not presently grant in-state tuition to recipients of DACA, and;

WHEREAS those Ohio colleges and universities that admit DACA students admit them as international students, whose tuition rates are typically two or three times higher than rates for in-state students (3), and;

WHEREAS this failure to comply with Ohio law is harming Ohio Latinos by making higher education financially impossible for them, and;

WHEREAS this has caused many of the state’s brightest young people to look for education and employment outside the state of Ohio, and;

WHEREAS the state of Ohio has already invested thousands of dollars into the primary and secondary education of these same students, and;

WHEREAS, the flow of bright young Ohio graduates out of the state to pursue higher education elsewhere harms Ohio’s economic, educational and workforce development, and;

WHEREAS this “brain drain” results in a loss for the state of thousands of dollars invested in the education of each one of these students, and

WHEREAS the Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs is statutorily obligated to advise state government on particular issues impacting Ohio Latinos (4); therefore be it

RESOLVED THAT:

The Ohio Commission on Hispanic/Latino Affairs calls upon the Ohio Board of Regents and Ohio’s public institutions of higher learning to work with recipients of DACA to comply fully with state and federal law and grant DACA recipients that have graduated from Ohio schools residency for purposes of in-state tuition. This should be done in order to maximize Ohio’s return on investment, to augment Ohio’s economic recovery by keeping some of our brightest young minds in Ohio, and to uphold the principles of fairness and justice.

1—USCIS Monthly Report, April 10 2013
2—“Up to 1.7 million unauthorized immigrant youth may benefit from new deportation rules”, Pew Hispanic Center, August 14 2012
3—Sec. e.g. Tuition and Fees for the 2012-2013 academic year at the Ohio State University, Columbus State Community College
4—O.R.C. §121.32