RESOLUTION – SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH AND DENIM DAY

The following resolution is presented by Board Members Pearlman, Svonkin, and Fong; Moreno, and Svonkin:

WHEREAS, The United States Government has declared April as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” and the Peace Over Violence has declared April 26, 2017 as “Denim Day” in Los Angeles County; and

WHEREAS, Both events are intended to draw attention to the fact that rape and sexual assault remains a serious issue in our society; and

WHEREAS, Harmful attitudes about rape and sexual assault allow these crimes to persist and allow victims/survivors to be re-victimized; and

WHEREAS, “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” and “Denim Day” are also intended as a means of calling attention to misconceptions and misinformation about rape and sexual assault and the reality that many in today’s society remain disturbingly uninformed with respect to issues of assault and forcible rape; and

WHEREAS, The importance of this issue is underlined by United States Department of Justice statistics indicating that approximately 35 of every 1,000 women who attend colleges or universities experience an attempted or completed rape during each school year1; and

WHEREAS, With proper education on the matter, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing incidents of this alarming and psychologically damaging crime; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles Community College District strongly supports the efforts of the Peace Over Violence to educate the community about the significant impact of rape and sexual assault in Southern California; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles Community College District does hereby proclaim the month of April 2017 as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month,” hereby designates April 26, 2017 as “Denim Day,” and encourages everyone to wear jeans on April 26, 2017 to help communicate the message that there is “no excuse and never an invitation to rape.”