



Board of Trustees

Los Angeles Community College District

ACTION

Com. No. BT2

Division

Board of Trustees

Date: January 13, 2016

Subject: **RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT RE-ENTRY YOUTH: "GRADUATION, NOT INCARCERATION"**

The following resolution is presented by Board Members Kamlager, Svonkin, and Hoffman:

- WHEREAS, California houses 83,000 people in its prisons each year; and
- WHEREAS, California expects to release 50,000 people from its prisons in the next two years; and
- WHEREAS, A recent study, "*Degrees of Freedom: Expanding College Opportunities for Currently and Formerly Incarcerated Californians*," reported the connection between high incarceration rates and poorly performing schools; and
- WHEREAS, Over-incarceration most impacts vulnerable, often minority populations, destabilizing communities and contributing to the high percentage of high school dropouts in the United States; and
- WHEREAS, Participants in prison college programs have a 51 percent greater chance of recidivating than those who do not participate and, after release, the odds of obtaining employment are higher for those who participate in education; and
- WHEREAS, California's need for college-educated workers is growing and is expected to outpace the number of citizens with a college education such that by 2025, 41 percent of jobs will require at least a bachelor's degree; and
- WHEREAS, California has the largest public education system in the nation, the state's commitment to educating individuals in custody often stops with a general equivalency diploma (GED) or high school degree, there are long waiting lists for the few programs that help these men and women become college graduates; and
- WHEREAS, California is home to 400,000 individuals who are on parole or probation and only 35 percent of Californians are projected to have earned a bachelor's degree by that time; and
- WHEREAS, Higher education is recognized as a vehicle to promote effective re-entry for former inmates; and
- WHEREAS, Los Angeles Mission College and Los Angeles Trade-Technical College offer career technical programs within Los Angeles County correctional facilities; and
- WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of the LACCD recognizes its commitment to the people of its service area by providing educational opportunities for all; now, therefore, be it

Chancellor and
Secretary of the Board of Trustees

By _____ Date _____

Eng _____	Moreno _____
Fong _____	Pearlman _____
Hoffman _____	Svonkin _____
Kamlager _____	Anderson _____ Student Trustee Advisory Vote

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- RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the LACCD hereby supports inmate re-entry education programs; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the LACCD will explore collaborative efforts with dropout recovery programs, judicial systems, and models across the region and nation that are achieving high rates of graduation; and be it further
- RESOLVED, That the LACCD will seek to develop collaborative partnerships within the District and with community-based, faith-based, nonprofit organizations and business and industry to address the specific development of curriculum and practices for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated adults; and be it finally
- RESOLVED, That the LACCD will explore the opportunity to be identified as one of the districts that would be willing to utilize at least a total of \$5 million of their combined funding for the purpose of developing and providing effective education programs for incarcerated adults in prisons and jails and the formerly incarcerated.