RESOLUTION – COMMUNITY COLLEGE BUDGET

The following resolution is presented by Trustees Scott-Hayes and Field:

WHEREAS, California’s 2010-11 fiscal year commenced on July 1, 2010; and
WHEREAS, As of this date, a state budget for the fiscal year has not been enacted; and
WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger proposed a budget for community colleges in January that increased funding for student enrollment and recognized the critical role of community colleges in California’s economic recovery; and
WHEREAS, The Conference Committee on the State Budget adopted a spending plan that maintained funding for community college enrollment growth, increased funding to restore proposed categorical program reductions, increased funding to “buy out” the negative COLA, and increased funding for community college job training in high-demand occupations; and
WHEREAS, The Conference Committee on the State Budget proposed a framework for tax reform that attempts to mitigate against volatile swings in state revenues while reducing the state’s reliance on the highest-income Californians and the disparate treatment of retail and Internet sales; and
WHEREAS, The Conference Committee on the State Budget adopted a spending plan that rejects the proposed elimination of the CalWORKs welfare-to-work and the state’s subsidized child care programs, both which serve thousands of community college students; and
WHEREAS, The delay in the enactment of the state budget has interrupted state cash payments to community colleges; and
WHEREAS, The spending plan proposed by the Conference Committee on the State Budget rejects a proposed $1.5 billion cut to K-12 schools; and
WHEREAS, Local community college districts are projected to spend at least $5 million on borrowing costs to accommodate the state’s delays in cash payments, which could otherwise be used to offer 1,200 courses at a time of unprecedented unmet enrollment demand; and
WHEREAS, The delay in the enactment of the state budget further is delaying the payment of Cal Grant financial aid awards to community college students, impeding their ability to purchase text books and supplies needed at the beginning of the academic term or requiring community colleges to find alternative funding sources for the aid; and
WHEREAS, The continued budget impasse will have grievous harm on community colleges and community college students if not resolved soon; now, therefore, be it

By ____________________________ Date __________
RESOLVED. That the Los Angeles Community College District calls upon the governor and state legislators to expeditiously adopt a state budget; and be it further

RESOLVED. That the District further calls upon the governor and legislators to use the Conference Committee on the State Budget's spending plan as a framework for preserving state programs that have a significant effect on the operations of community colleges while minimizing the increased tax burden on Californians.
This Board item was rescinded at the August 11, 2010 Board meeting and tabled until the August 25, 2010 Board meeting. Substitute language is shown in italics.

Subject: RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE BUDGET PROPOSAL

The following resolution is presented by Trustee Santiago:

WHEREAS, California is again facing a huge deficit—a $17.9 billion general fund shortfall; the ongoing gap in revenues and spending continues to place an undue burden on educators and threatens to compromise the quality of public education in the state; and

WHEREAS, The budget proposal introduced by Assembly Speaker John A. Perez and Senate President Pro Tempore Darrell Steinberg creates and saves California jobs and provides access to hundreds of thousands of community college students while closing the budget deficit; and

WHEREAS, The Conference Committee budget proposal protects public school funding, providing $52 billion in Proposition 98 funding to K-12 schools and community colleges; and

WHEREAS, The Conference Committee budget proposal provides for $186 million in additional funding to California’s Community Colleges; and

WHEREAS, The approximately $17 million in additional funding for the Los Angeles Community College District will mean access for approximately 7,000 more students and increased support services to provide for greater student success; and

WHEREAS, The Conference Committee budget proposal will ensure that $11.2 billion in maintenance factor funding would be repaid to local school districts and community colleges; this protects tens of thousands of jobs for teachers, aides, and counselors and access for community college students-a step which is good for the local community and the local business community; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Board of Trustees of the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) hereby supports the Conference Committee budget proposal, which includes as a minimum $52 billion in Prop 98 funding, $186 million in funding for community colleges and $17 million in additional funding for the LACCD, and encourages the State Legislature and the Governor to adopt this budget without delay.