RESOLUTION – COVER LACCD WEEK

The following resolution is presented by Trustees Eng, Santiago, and Svonkin:

WHEREAS, At least 5 million Californians have insufficient or no health care coverage; and

WHEREAS, Many of the uninsured are part of the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD) community, especially students and employees; and

WHEREAS, Starting on January 1, 2014, almost every United States citizen and legal resident will be required to possess minimum essential health insurance or face a penalty of $95 or 1 percent of income, whichever is greater, unless exempt under the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA); and

WHEREAS, Californians face important and complex information on how to comply with Federal and State laws including qualifying for subsidies, no-cost health insurance, and insurance that requires substantial costs; and

WHEREAS, Covered California is the state’s new health insurance marketplace that will simplify the purchase of quality health insurance and get financial assistance to help pay for it; and

WHEREAS, Covered California educates and trains counselors who, when certified, are permitted to assist and enroll Californians in health insurance plans in order to comply with the ACA; and

WHEREAS, Covered California provides payments to certain entities that provide volunteers who will become qualified counselors after completing background checks, a three-day training program, and administrative forms; and

WHEREAS, The LACCD serves a student population of up to 250,000 students a year, many of whom have insufficient or no health insurance; and

WHEREAS, Many students and others who lack minimum essential health coverage have no knowledge of the ACA and the IRS penalties for not having health insurance; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That it is the intent of the LACCD to facilitate compliance with the ACA by those within our District; and be it further
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RESOLVED, That it is the priority of the LACCD to ensure compliance with the ACA by encouraging Trustees, administrators, colleges, student governments, unions, faculty, and staff to work together and with Covered California to provide a program that will effectively provide education, appropriate resources, and volunteers who can qualify as counselors; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the LACCD hereby establishes a "Cover LACCD Week" at an appropriate date in January or February 2014 to publicize, educate, and sign up as many LACCD constituents as possible, especially students working through the appropriate student body representatives; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the LACCD encourages the student body representatives to work with the Trustees, District administration, College Presidents and their respective staffs, faculty, staff, and unions to strive to sign up as many students as possible to comply with the ACA.