

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
CHULA VISTA SUPPORTING THE DREAM ACT OF 2017

WHEREAS, in September 2017 President Trump and U.S. Attorney General Sessions announced a March 2018 end to a DOJ program that shields certain young undocumented immigrants (“Dreamers”) from deportation; and

WHEREAS, President Trump and Attorney General Sessions urged Congress to use that 6-month period to pass legislation that would replace the program; and

WHEREAS, the Dream Act of 2017, S. 1615, is pending in the United States Senate; and

WHEREAS, an identical bill of the same name, H.R. 3440 (collectively herein “the Dream Act”), is pending in the United States House of Representatives; and

WHEREAS, the Dream Act would provide an eventual path to citizenship for those “Dreamers” who meet all requirements of the bill; and

WHEREAS, according to bill summaries, the Dream Act would direct the Department of Homeland Security to cancel removal and grant lawful permanent resident status on a conditional basis to an alien (a term of art in federal immigration statutes) who is inadmissible or deportable or is in temporary protected status who: (1) has been continuously physically present in the United States for four years preceding the bills’ enactment; (2) was younger than 18 years of age on the initial date of U.S. entry; (3) is not inadmissible on criminal, security, terrorism, or other grounds; (4) has not participated in persecution; (5) has not been convicted of specified federal or state offenses; and (6) has fulfilled specified educational requirements; and

WHEREAS, according to bill summaries, the Dream Act would require the Department of Homeland Security to cancel the removal of, and adjust to the status of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence on a conditional basis, an alien who was granted Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status unless the alien has engaged in conduct that would make the alien ineligible for DACA; and

WHEREAS, according to bill summaries, the Dream Act would prohibit the Department of Homeland Security from (1) granting conditional permanent resident status without the submission of biometric and background data, and completion of background and medical checks; and (2) disclose or use information provided in applications filed under the Dream Act or in DACA requests for immigration enforcement purposes; and

WHEREAS, according to bill summaries, the Dream Act would prescribe the conditions under which the Department of Homeland Security (1) may terminate a person’s conditional

permanent residents status, and (2) shall adjust a person's conditional status to permanent resident status; and

WHEREAS, according to bill summaries, the Dream Act (1) sets forth documentation requirements for establishing DACA eligibility, and (2) repeals the denial of an unlawful alien's eligibility for higher education benefits based on state residence; and

WHEREAS, more than 400 Chief Executive Officers of America's largest corporations, including the CEOs of such companies as AT&T, Best Buy, Amazon, Apple, Microsoft, Facebook and Alphabet, have signed a letter calling upon the administration to "preserve the DACA program," and calling upon Congress to "pass the bipartisan DREAM Act or legislation that provides these young people raised in our country the permanent solution they deserve;" and

WHEREAS, at the November 21, 2017 Council meeting, members of the public and the City Council advocated for the Dream Act and asked the City Council to pass a support resolution at the next meeting; and

WHEREAS, City Council directed staff to bring back a resolution supporting the Dream Act, and this Resolution implements that direction; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chula Vista embraces the diversity of its residents, students and members of its workforce, and encourages the participation of all residents in community life.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Chula Vista, that it urges the U.S. Congress to support the Dream Act of 2017.

Presented by

Approved as to form by

Gary Halbert
City Manager

Glen R. Googins
City Attorney