WHEREAS, The California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB) Associated Students, Incorporated (Inc.) is the officially recognized voice of the university’s 8,654 students; and,

WHEREAS, The mission statement of the Associated Students, Inc. “seeks to assist in the protection of the rights and interests of individual students and the student body as a whole”; and,

WHEREAS, It is estimated that there are 1,300 undocumented students enrolled in the University of California and another 6,400 in the California State University; and,

WHEREAS, The California Dream Act was authorized by the State Legislature with the approval of Assembly Bill (AB) 130 and AB 131, and subsequently signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown in the Fall of 2011. This step forward allows qualifying AB 540 students to receive in-state tuition rates and to receive state financial aid awards (Board of Governor’s Fee Waiver and Cal Grants, respectively); and,

WHEREAS, Students who are undocumented cannot receive Federal Pell Grants, nor Federal loans (subsidized and unsubsidized), and they lack the full financial funds to pay
for all of their college fees—“$5,000 to $6,000 at the University of California and $3,000 for the California State University”\(^\text{4}\); and,

WHEREAS, State Senator Ricardo Lara submitted Senate Bill (SB) 1210 to the Legislature for consideration, and if enacted, state loan programs would be established at each individual campus by 2015-16, allowing qualified undocumented students to receive state loans; and,

WHEREAS, Prior to qualifying for loans pursuant to SB 1210, students would have to meet the following criteria: a) they are exempt from paying nonresident tuition; b) they have applied for financial aid pursuant to the Dream Act and California Student Aid Commission; c) they are enrolled at least half-time and in good academic standing with their university; d) they are determined by their university to have financial need; e) they continue to make academic progress at their university; f) they are not incarcerated; g) they are not currently in loan default; and, h) they are enrolled in a program that is eligible for the Cal Grant\(^\text{5}\); and,

WHEREAS, The University of California, the California State University, and the California State Student Association all support SB 1210\(^\text{6}\); therefore, let it be

RESOLVED, That the CSUB Associated Students, Inc. urges the California State Assembly and Senate to support SB 1210 and qualified SB 1210 students; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the CSUB Associated Students, Inc. supports SB 1210 and undocumented students' pursuit of higher education; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be sent to CSUB President Horace Mitchell, Vice President of Student Affairs Thomas D. Wallace, CSUB’s The Runner, and The Bakersfield Californian, Bakersfield’s district representatives in California’s Assembly and Senate, Senator Ricardo Lara, and Bakersfield’s respective congressional representatives.

