



WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION OF
COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL
COLLEGES
BOARD OF PRESIDENTS

December 8, 2016

President-elect Donald J. Trump
Trump Tower
725 5th Avenue
New York, NY 10022

Dear President-elect Trump:

We the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and the 37 chancellors and presidents of the system respectfully request that you continue the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program for students in our system and across the country. In our state we have thousands of DACA students pursuing their dream of higher education. These current students and thousands of earlier students are attempting to better their lives and those of their families by gaining a higher education. They have and will continue to contribute greatly to our local economy and that of these United States.

DACA students must have been brought to this country as minors, stayed out of trouble, and continued to pursue an education. These students are the children of undocumented immigrants but, through no fault of their own, are not considered citizens. Many do not remember their homeland, have never returned and may never have used the language of their parents' home country. Some are student body presidents and leaders in our colleges. Many are the best students in their class. They are model students and have never been seen as a threat. On their own initiative they came forward to become part of the DACA program in our state.

Moreover, as taxpayers, we consider the enormous investment in their K-12 educations. There is no return on investment if we prevent them from entering or staying in our workforce. Many employers need bilingual and bicultural employees to help them compete globally.

These students are some of the best of the best and we fervently hope they will be able to follow their dream of higher education without the anxiety or dread that the federal authorities may interrupt their studies.

Speaking for these thousands of DACA students in our state, we respectfully appeal to you to allow them to continue their education here in Washington state and reassure them of their worth as important and vital residents of this great country.

Sincerely,



Larry Brown
State Board Member



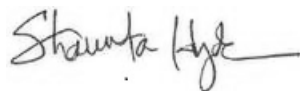
Elizabeth Chen
State Board Member



Anne Fennessy
State Board Member



Phyllis Gutierrez-Kenney
State Board Member



Shaunta Hyde
State Board Member



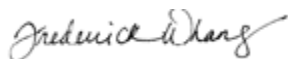
Carol Landa-McVicker
State Board Member



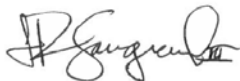
Wayne Martin
State Board Member



Jay Reich
State Board Member



Fred Whang
State Board Member



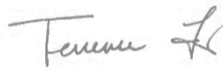
John R. Langrell, III
Bates Technical College



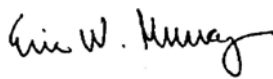
Jill A. Wakefield
Bellevue College



Kimberly Perry
Bellingham Technical College



Terrence Leas
Big Bend Community College



Eric W. Murray
Cascadia College



Bob Mohrbacher
Centralia College



Robert K. Knight
Clark College



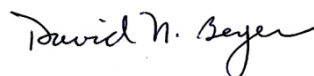
Joyce Loveday
Clover Park Technical College



Richard Cummins
Columbia Basin College



Jean Hernandez
Edmonds Community College



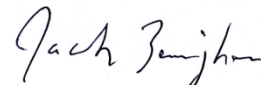
David N. Beyer
Everett Community College



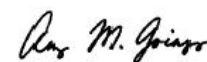
James Minkler
Grays Harbor College



Scott Morgan
Green River College



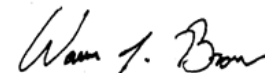
Jack Bermingham
Highline College



Amy Morrison Goings
Lake WA Institute of Technology



Christopher C. Bailey
Lower Columbia College



Warren Brown
North Seattle College



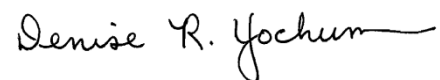
David C. Mitchell
Olympic College



Luke Robins
Peninsula College



Michele L. Johnson
Pierce College



Denise R. Yochum
Pierce College Fort Steilacoom



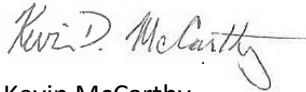
Marty R. Cavalluzzi
Pierce College Puyallup



Gary Oertli
South Seattle College



Jim Richardson
Wenatchee Valley College



Kevin McCarthy
Renton Technical College



Christine Johnson
Community Colleges of Spokane



Kathi Hiyane-Brown
Whatcom Community College



Sheila Edwards Lange
Seattle Central College



Ryan Carstens
Spokane Community College



Linda Kaminski
Yakima Valley Community College



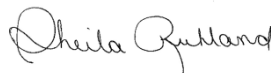
Shouan Pan
Seattle Colleges



Janet Gullickson
Spokane Falls Community College



Cheryl Roberts
Shoreline Community College



Sheila Ruhland
Tacoma Community College



Thomas A. Keegan
Skagit Valley College



Derek Brandes
Walla Walla Community College



Timothy Stokes
South Puget Sound Community College

cc: Sen. Maria Cantwell
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Rep. Adam Smith
Governor Jay Inslee