GOVERNING COUNCIL OF ACADEMY FOR TECHNOLOGY AND THE CLASSICS RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF DREAMERS

Whereas, in 2012, then-President Barack Obama through executive order established Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) to allow children of undocumented immigrants who were brought to the United States to lawfully go to school or work;

Whereas, the DACA program set legal requirements for admission, including that the immigrant children must have been brought to the United States before age 16; must be currently in school, have graduated from high school or obtained a general educational development certificate, or must be honorably discharged from the armed forces; and must not have been convicted of a felony or otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety;

Whereas, there are approximately 800,000 DACA recipients or DREAMers in the United States and approximately 8,000 in New Mexico;

Whereas, ATC is fortunate to have DREAMers as students in our school:

Whereas, many of these children and young adults have never known a home other than the United States, and deporting them would be sending them to a country they do not know:

Whereas, 98% of DREAMers recipients are in school or employed, and many do both;

Whereas, DACA recipients contribute to our society in many ways. They are doctors, nurses, lawyers, engineers. They labor in our farms, ranches, and dairies. They earn graduate degrees and start businesses. They volunteer in our communities. They pay taxes, and pay into Social Security and Medicare;

Whereas, forcing these young people out of work could cost the United States 700,000 jobs and \$460.3 billion in economic output over the next 10 years, and Social Security and Medicare contributions could drop by \$24.6 billion over the same time period;

Whereas, the majority of Americans support DACA; a recent poll showing, for example, that 73 percent of voters want legislation protecting DREAMers from deportation and 65 percent want Congress to make that a priority;

Whereas, ending the DACA program would take back promises made by the U.S. government to DREAMers and their families, would tear families apart, and would be just plain cruel;

Be it resolved that ATC Governing Council whole-heartedly supports the DACA program, whole-heartedly supports all DREAMers at ATC and welcomes them as part of our school, and thanks them for their contributions to our community.

Approved September 14, 2017

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