

WEST VALLEY-MISSION COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

RESOLUTION NO. 22111501

SUPPORT THE OPTION OF FREE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WHEREAS, The Board of Trustees of the West Valley-Mission Community College District is committed to ensuring equitable educational opportunities for all members of our community; and

WHEREAS, the District's Strategic Plan has prioritized student success, in its fullest context, and has created institutional frameworks that ensure a "Students First" approach and mindset; and

WHEREAS, the District is dedicated to taking action in support of social justice, equity, diversity, inclusion, accessibility, belonging, and anti-racism; and

WHEREAS, the District is funded from community support (Basic Aid) funds and has access to financial resources that allow for the realization of these actions; and

WHEREAS, the West Valley-Mission Community College District Service Area is in an economically prosperous area of the State, and while there are significant populations who experience economic disadvantages and educational gaps; and

WHEREAS, total costs for a student to attend West Valley and/or Mission College far exceed what many students can afford when tuition, fees, books, technology, transportation, food, rent, child care, and other dependent care costs are taken into consideration; and

WHEREAS, over the course of the last several years, the West Valley-Mission Community College District Board of Trustees has set, as institutional imperatives through its budgeting process, programs and critical student support elements that are helping to bridge the gaps that many students experience and more needs to be done; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has an interest in proclaiming its support for providing free community college by removing financial and social barriers to higher education access, persistence and completion, and using the resources and influence of the District to realize the same; now, therefore, be it further

RESOLVED, that we, the West Valley-Mission Community College District Board of Trustees hereby affirms its commitment to provide free community college and support for financial, policy and advocacy efforts to make a lasting impact on students' lives; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the West Valley-Mission Community College District authorizes the Chancellor to pursue changes to California Ed Code, 76300 in partnership with local elected officials that would permit fee waivers and use local funds to offer students

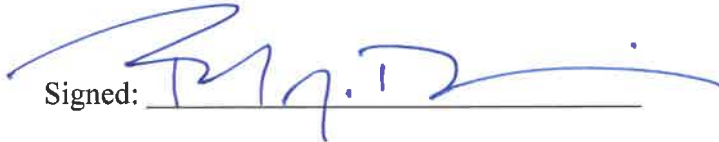
free tuition by establishing legislative changes to the Education Code permitting reductions and waivers of tuition and enrollment fees; and, be it further

RESOLVED, West Valley-Mission Community College District would be permitted to waive, or charge reduced fees and use its local funds to provide students free community college courses by establishing legislation, changing the Education Code permitting flexibility to adopt appropriate and necessary policies relating to qualifications for students who would be eligible for reduced fees.

Dated: 11-15-2022

Signed: 

Anne Kepner, Board President, WVMCCD

Signed: 

Bradley Davis, Chancellor, WVMCCD