



**R-13**

**Date:** August 7, 2012

**To:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

**From:** Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell, Fourth District  
Vice Mayor Robert Garcia, First District  
Councilmember Steven Neal, Ninth District  
Councilmember Suja Lowenthal, Second District

**Subject:** **Resolution in Support of the Middle Class Scholarship Act**

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Student fees at University of California (UC), California State University (CSU), and Community Colleges have been rapidly increasing since 2003. While financial aid programs have helped alleviate the burden of increasing fees to many low-income students, few programs exist to help students who are part of middle class families. The Middle Class Scholarship Act was created to enable more middle class students attend college by helping to decrease college fees.

The package encompasses State Assembly Bills 1500 and 1501, which would provide undergraduate students enrolled in a UC, CSU, or Community College a scholarship award. Each academic year, the student will receive a scholarship grant based on specific requirements. Combined with other financial aid, the amount of the scholarship award will cover at least 2/3 of the mandatory system-wide fees charged in an academic year.

Access to college education is vital to the success of our economy and the greater community. As home to a major university and one of our states largest school districts, support for this act is vital to the future of our local economy and our local students.

**Recommendation:**

**Respectfully request City Attorney to draft a resolution in support of the Middle Class Scholarship Act on behalf of the City of Long Beach.**