






NB-44

Date: September 21, 2010

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell, Fourth District 
Councilmember Robert Garcia, First District 
Councilmember Steven Neal, Ninth District 

Subject: **Resolution in Support of the DREAM Act**

The Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act was first introduced in Congress in 2001. The purpose of the DREAM Act is to create a path to conditional legalization for undocumented students based on their commitment to gain an advanced education or serve in the US military.

The DREAM Act, which is likely to soon come up for a vote in the United States Senate and has become a bi-partisan effort, would provide opportunity and benefit thousands of students in the Greater Long Beach area. It would increase the educational opportunities of our youth and reward those who join the service and protect our nation. Many high achieving students find themselves "locked out" of seizing opportunities because they "do not have a number." It is time that our nation confront this issue so as to benefit communities like ours.

As a community, we have already invested in the education of these students and we should allow them to reach their full potential and contribute to our society.

Eligibility and requirements under the DREAM Act include the following:

- Students have entered the United States before their 16th birthday and have been living in the US continuously for at least five years
- They are a person of good moral character
- They are not deportable under the grounds of the Immigration and Nationality Act
- They have been admitted to an institution of higher education or have earned a high school or equivalent diploma
- They have never been under a final order of removal
- They are under the age of 35 on the date of the bill's enactment

No free ride, the Dream Act requires a commitment. If deemed eligible, an undocumented student would obtain temporary residency for a six-year period. During that period, he or she must acquire a degree from a two or four-year university, complete at least two years of a four-year degree program, or serve for at least two years in the armed services. After six years and completing one of the three aforementioned criteria, a student would be eligible to apply for legal permanent resident status.

Recommendation:

Respectfully request City Attorney to draft a resolution in support of the Federal DREAM Act on behalf of the City of Long Beach.



City of Long Beach Memorandum
Working Together to Serve

REQUEST TO ADD AGENDA ITEM

Date: *September 17, 2010*

To: Larry Herrera, City Clerk

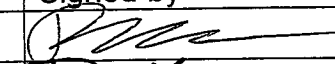

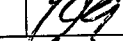
From: *Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell*

Subject: Request to Add Agenda Item to Council Agenda of **Sept. 21, 2010**

Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 2.03.070 [B], the City Councilmembers signing below request that the attached agenda item (due in the City Clerk Department by Friday, 12:00 Noon) be placed on the City Council agenda under New Business via the supplemental agenda.

The agenda title/recommendation for this item reads as follows:

Respectfully request City Attorney to draft a resolution in support of the Federal DREAM Act on behalf of the City of Long Beach.

| Council District | Authorizing Councilmember | Signed by |
|------------------|---------------------------|--|
| 4 | Patrick O'Donnell |  |
| 1 | Robert Garcia |  |
| 9 | Steven Neal |  |