

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-07

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA, CALLING UPON THE ARIZONA BOARD OF REGENTS TO RECOGNIZE ARIZONA YOUTH WITH DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA) AS ARIZONA STATE RESIDENTS FOR PURPOSES OF EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS, INCLUDING IN-STATE TUITION, FINANCIAL AID, AND SCHOLARSHIPS

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, according to the Arizona Constitution education at state universities should be “as nearly free as possible;” and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Board of Regents’ Student Financial Aid Preamble states that higher education is beneficial to both the individual and society, and that in order to realize an educated society, a comprehensive and responsible set of financial assistance programs is crucial; and

WHEREAS, President Barrack Obama’s executive order from June 2012 (and later expanded) known as Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) enabled young people who were brought to this country without documents as children to obtain legal presence in the United States for three years (renewable), work permits, and driver licenses in the state of Arizona; and

WHEREAS, DACA-approved Arizona youth are assets to our communities. They and their parents contribute to Arizona’s and Flagstaff’s economies and are an important part of our community’s social and cultural fabric. The DACA-approved population’s greater educational attainment will help the state become economically more competitive; and

WHEREAS, today our state universities are tuition-driven institutions. Arizona’s more than 20,000 DACA-approved youth can contribute significantly to the fiscal stability of our state universities and keep tuition from rising for others, especially as state appropriations decline; and

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senates of the three state universities, Northern Arizona University, Arizona State University and University of Arizona have already passed resolutions supporting in-state tuition for DACA-approved Arizona youth.

ENACTMENTS:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Flagstaff urges the Arizona Board of Regents (ABOR) to recognize DACA-approved Arizona youth as Arizona state residents for purposes of educational benefits including in-state tuition, financial aid and scholarships.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Flagstaff this 10th day of March, 2015.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY