

**Resolution on Support for Maryland High School Students being Eligible for
In-State Tuition at Maryland Public Colleges and Universities
Adopted March 22, 2011**

Whereas:

1. Montgomery County Public Schools and all U.S. public schools provide the right of education to all children attending school through grade 12, regardless of federal immigration status.
2. Montgomery County Council of Parent Teacher Associations is one of many voices for Montgomery County children.
3. An unknown but not insignificant number of children living in Montgomery County who are MCPS students or who have graduated from Montgomery County secondary schools are undocumented (i.e., have no legal federal immigration status and are not eligible for a U.S. social security number). These children were brought to live in the United States and are raised as Americans.
4. The University System of Maryland does not grant in-state tuition to undocumented students; the 2010-11 out-of-state and in-state tuition at the University of Maryland, College Park, is \$24,800 and \$8,400, respectively.
5. Many undocumented students maintain interest in pursuing higher education to gain social mobility and contribute positively to their community and the society at large, even though they must make enormous sacrifices to study at college or university. In addition to having to pay more for out-of-state tuition, undocumented students are responsible for the full tuition bill; they are not eligible for federal loans or grants.
6. The limitations that go along with a lack of official identification – ineligibility to work, difficulties opening a bank account, lack of income tax forms, restrictions on transportation such as a train or plane that require official ID – means that undocumented students are not mobile and require access to public universities close to their homes.
7. Ten states provide in-state tuition for their state residents, regardless of federal immigration status (California, Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, and Washington).

8. The National Immigration Law Center (NILC) reports that an estimated 70,000 undocumented students graduate from American high schools each year.

9. The Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors Act (The "DREAM Act") has failed to pass the U.S. Congress every year that it has been introduced, starting in 2001. The bill's intent is to provide a path to legal residency for undocumented students who graduate from college.

Be it resolved that:

1. MCCPTA supports charging in-state tuition, rather than out-of-state tuition, for all Maryland residents who have graduated from Maryland secondary schools.

2. MCCPTA supports the passage of Maryland State Senate Bill 167 and Maryland State House Bill 470 that establish the conditions for public state universities to grant in-state tuition to undocumented students who have attended secondary school in Maryland for at least 2 years and whose parent or guardian has had Maryland income tax withheld during the year prior to the individual graduating from school, among other requirements.