Attachment B

STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Colorado Commission on Higher Education

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Resolution in Support of Senate Bill 13-033 - Colorado ASSET – Advancing Students for a Stronger Economy Tomorrow

WHEREAS, students who have a reasonable hope of attending post secondary education are more likely to graduate from high school and thereby aid in narrowing the existing achievement gap between students from families with low socioeconomic status and students from families with higher socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education is committed to increasing its state graduation rates and having the highest possible percentage of its graduates attend post secondary education; and

WHEREAS, Colorado's economic growth and competitiveness requires a highly educated workforce; and

WHEREAS, under current Colorado state law, undocumented but otherwise qualified Colorado high school students face prohibitively high out-of-state tuition rates at state community colleges, four-year colleges, and universities which often prevents them from affording post secondary education; and

WHEREAS, denying post secondary access to Colorado's growing undocumented population means failing to capitalize on our current investments in their K-12 education; and

WHEREAS, providing equitable access to all Colorado high school graduates, including undocumented Colorado students who would otherwise qualify for in-state tuition for post secondary education will help to end discrimination; motivate all students to pursue higher education opportunities in Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 13-033 removes financial barriers for eligible undocumented students to qualify for in-state tuition at Colorado public institutions of higher education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Colorado Commission on Higher Education strongly supports legislation to provide an equitable and fair way for qualified undocumented students who complete high school in Colorado to pursue a post secondary education.

Adopted this twenty-second day of January, two thousand and thirteen.

Richard Kaufman
Chair, Colorado Commission on Higher Education

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