December 1, 2010

[This letter was sent to all members of the New Jersey Congressional Delegation]

* * *

Dear *:

The undersigned New Jersey community college presidents, in consultation with their boards of trustees, write in support of the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act.

The DREAM Act would do two things. First, the bill would return to the states the ability to decide whether to extend in-state tuition to undocumented students, though it does not require states to take any particular action. Second, the DREAM Act would establish a six-year conditional residency status for students who were brought to this country before the age of 16, have been here at least five years, and have graduated from a U.S. high school. DREAM-eligible individuals may then qualify for permanent residency after the six years by completing at least two years of higher education or military service.

The New Jersey Council of County Colleges is the state association for New Jersey’s 19 community colleges. The 11 undersigned presidents, on behalf of their individual colleges, urge you to pass the DREAM Act this year.

Sincerely,

Dr. G. Jeremiah Ryan
Bergen Community College

Dr. Robert Messina
Burlington County College

Dr. Raymond Yannuzzi
Camden County College

Dr. Thomas Isekenegbe
Cumberland County College

Dr. Edythe Abdullah
Essex County College

Dr. Glen Gabert
Hudson County Community College

Dr. Patricia Donohue
Mercer County Community College

Dr. Joann La Perla-Morales
Middlesex County College

Dr. Steven Rose
Passaic County Community College

Mr. Harold Damato
Sussex County Community College

Dr. Margaret McMenamin
Union County College

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