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COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR DREAM ACT

Selden, NY– At its June meeting, the Board of Trustees of Suffolk County Community College passed a memorializing resolution asking the New York State Legislature to enact the Dream Act and establish the New York State Dream Fund Commission. The Board action followed a presentation by Student Trustee Anthony Mangual.

“As a Board, we believe in providing all students, regardless of their immigration status, with an opportunity to study at the college level and meet their career goals,” said BOT Chairwoman Dafny Irizarry. “Across New York State, the concept of equitable access has been formally approved by the State University of New York, the City University of New York, the New York City Council and numerous advocacy groups. Today our Board, unanimously, made its own statement of support for this effort.”

Student Trustee Mangual stated, “My role as student trustee is to represent the College’s student body. Many of Suffolk’s students felt it was important for the College’s Board to understand how hopeful they are to see a solution that would help some of their contemporaries attain a few of their long-term goals. With so many bright, highly motivated students enrolled here at Suffolk, we really needed to let everyone who has been advocating for this legislation, know that they have our support.”

Under current law, New York State prohibits undocumented immigrant students from receiving State financial aid in the form of student loans and funding through the Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). The law does allow these individuals to enroll in institutions of public higher education and, if they meet other residency standards including graduation from a New York high school or GED program, to pay the in-state tuition rate.

About Suffolk County Community College

Suffolk County Community College (SCCC) is the largest community college in the State University of New York (SUNY) system, enrolling approximately 26,000 students at its three campuses in Selden, Brentwood and Riverhead. SCCC offers the Associate in Arts (A.A.), Associate in Science (A.S.), and Associate in Applied Science (A.A.S.) degrees, as well as a variety of certificate programs. Offering the lowest college tuition on Long Island, a highly

respected Honors program, extensive extracurricular activities, championship athletic teams, and numerous transfer programs, SCCC is a first-choice college for Long Island students. Visit us online at sunysuffolk.edu.

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