HARTNELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
Resolution 15:6 in Support of Keeping College Affordable for Millions of Students
Federal Budget Proposal

Resolution calling upon members of Congress to not put the dream of a college education in jeopardy by proposed changes to the Pell Grant Program.

Whereas, Pell Grants make college possible for millions of Americans, and

Whereas, next year's maximum Pell Grant will cover the smallest share of college costs since the start of the program; and

Whereas, Pell Grant recipients are already more than twice as likely as other students to have student loans (61% vs. 29%); and

Whereas, for students of color, Pell Grants are particularly important; and

Whereas, America's economy needs more students to complete college, but families are struggling to cover the cost; and

Whereas, a college degree dramatically increases employment and; and

Whereas, recent federal budget agreements reduced Pell Grant costs by more than $50; and

Whereas, people of all backgrounds, ages, and party affiliations oppose cuts to Pell Grants and believe college affordability should be a top priority for Congress and the; and

Whereas, Pell Grant costs have declined since 2010 and are projected to remain level over the next 10 years after adjusting for inflation; and

Whereas, the Pell Grant program is projected to have surplus funds at the end of FY14, FY15, and FY16; and

Whereas, this budget proposal has significant, negative impact on the ability of students and families to manage the cost of a college education; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the U.S. Congress rethink its proposal that eliminates mandatory funding for Pell grants, freezes the maximum grant at its current level, and eliminates the subsidized loan program, Public Service Loan Forgiveness, and income-based repayment; and

Be it further resolved, that the U.S. Congress should not reduce the Pell Grant Program, but should do all it can to make college affordable and accessible for all Americans.
Passed and adopted this 7th day of April, 2015 at a meeting of the Hartnell Community College District Governing Board by the following vote:

AYES: DePauw, Donohue, Freeman, Gonzalez-Castro, Montemayor, Padilla-Chavez, Pruneda

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

Elia Gonzalez-Castro
President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Willard Lewallen, Ph.D.
Secretary, Board of Trustees