HARTNELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
Resolution 16-3
In Support of AB 1721 (Medina) and AB 1892 (Medina)
Cal Grants and College Affordability

WHEREAS, California is projected to face a significant gap in both skilled workers and college graduates; and

WHEREAS, California community colleges are the gateway to middle class in the state through its robust transfer and Career Technical Education programs; and

WHEREAS, students at California community colleges are more likely to be the first in their family to attend college, in need of retraining, come from an immigrant background, or be financially disadvantaged; and

WHEREAS, major factors in a student’s enrollment and ultimate success in college is affordability, including fees and tuition, textbooks and transportation, housing and food, and other access costs; and

WHEREAS, California has made an important investment in need-based financial aid for California college students through the California Community College Board of Governors (BOG) Fee Waiver Program, the largest free community college plan in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of attendance, even with financial aid available for students (federal, state and institutional), attending a California Community College is more expensive than a University of California or California State University; and

WHEREAS, the lack of state financial aid support has forced community college students to work more, take fewer classes, reducing the chances of achieving academic success; and

WHEREAS, increasing the number of college graduates and skilled workers is a priority for Governor Brown and the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, AB 1721 (Medina) will help reform the Cal Grant B program to better serve California community college students by increasing the access award level and number of competitive Cal Grants available, and expand access to the transfer entitlement program by raising the age limit and extending the application deadline; and

WHEREAS, AB 1892 (Medina) will help reform the Cal Grant C program to better serve California community college students in Career Technical Education programs by creating an entitlement program for financially disadvantaged students and increase the access award level;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the HARTNELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT does hereby support AB 1721 (Medina) and AB 1892 (Medina), both of which will reform the Cal
Grant system to address completion barriers by helping California community college students take more classes and be academically successful;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that members of the California State Senate and the California State Assembly should address college affordability by passing AB 1721 and AB 1892 by Assembly Member Jose Medina.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 5th day of April 2016 at a meeting of the Hartnell Community College District Governing Board by the following vote:

AYES:  7 - DePauw, Donchue, Montemayor, Osorio, Padilla-Chavez, Salazar, Serana

NOES:  0

ABSTAIN:  0

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

President, Board of Trustees