

**MOTIONS/RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED TO
THE LOS ANGELES CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR CONSIDERATION**

SUBJECT: Creating Children’s College Savings Accounts to Help Families Save for College
(Res-052-17/18)

DATE NOTICED: 06-12-18

PRESENTED FOR ACTION: 06-19-18

PRESENTED BY: Mr. Melvoin, Ms. Gonez,
Ms. García

MOVED/SECONDED BY: Mr. Melvoin /
Ms. Gonez

MOTION:

RESOLUTION: x

Whereas, The relationship between education and social mobility is well documented and according to the Brookings Institution, a child born into the lowest socio-economic quintile who does not go on to obtain a college degree has a 45 percent chance of remaining in that quintile, while a child born into the lowest quintile who does earn a college degree has only a 16 percent chance of remaining in that socio-economic bracket and a 19 percent chance of breaking into the top quintile (Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education and University of Pennsylvania Alliance for Higher Education and Democracy, “Indicators of Higher Education Equity in the United States: 45 Year Trend Report” http://www.pellinstitute.org/downloads/publications-Indicators_of_Higher_Education (2015));

Whereas, Three decades ago, full-time workers with a bachelor’s degree made 40 percent more than those with only a high school diploma and last year, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, that number reached 83 percent, meanwhile, the share of jobs requiring a post-secondary school degree more than doubled (Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor “Earnings and unemployment rates by educational attainment” http://www.bls.gov/emp/ep_chart_001.htm (2014));

Whereas, Over the last half-century, policies that have increased access to higher education, from the GI Bill to student aid, have not only lifted millions out of poverty, but have also boosted productivity, innovation and economic growth. More recently, a number of jurisdictions have launched dedicated Children’s College Savings Account (CSA) programs intended to incentivize college or technical/trade school completion rates;

Whereas, CSAs are long-term, asset-building accounts for children that are most commonly used for postsecondary expenses. The accounts are typically seeded with an initial deposit (from public and private funds), and they grow through a combination of program-provided incentives and contributions from family, friends, and eventually, the children themselves. Currently, there are 54 CSA programs across the United States, including in San Francisco and Oakland;

Whereas, According to the Center for Social Development at Washington University in St. Louis, a low- to moderate-income child with up to \$500 designated for school savings is four-times more likely to enroll and nearly five-times more likely to graduate from college than a child with no savings (Elliot, W., Hyun-a Song, Ilsung Nam, “Small-Dollar Children’s Savings Accounts, Income, and College Outcomes”, Center for Social

SUBJECT: Creating Children’s College Savings Accounts to Help Families Save for College
(Res-052-17/18)

Development, Washington University in St. Louis, CSD Publication No. 13-06 <http://csd.wustl.edu/publications/documents/wp13-06.pdf> (2013)) – the residual effects of which far outweigh the associated financial and administrative costs. Equally important, a college savings account sends the message to students and parents alike that post-secondary education is a real possibility;

Whereas, Narrowing the gap in college participation, and increasing financial opportunity and security across income groups, are vital to the continued growth of our County. The rapid growth of CSAs illustrates that even modest asset ownership – something as simple as a savings account – can increase financial security and expand opportunity for the next generation of Angelenos and the adults in their lives. Given this potential, it is incumbent that we explore the feasibility of establishing such a program in Los Angeles; and

Whereas, The resolution Exploring Partnership with City of Los Angeles on College Savings Accounts for LAUSD Students (Res-058-15/16), sponsored by LAUSD Board Members Steve Zimmer, Dr. Ref Rodriguez and Monica Garcia, was passed by the Board on August 23, 2016 and affirmed the District’s efforts to explore a partnership with the City of Los Angeles to provide a college savings account for every District student; similarly, Councilman David Ryu sponsored a motion which passed the Los Angeles City Council on June 14, 2016 to take the first steps to exploring the City’s role in CSAs. Since that time, the City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles, and LAUSD have worked in partnership to determine the feasibility, funding, and administration of a CSA program for the region’s students;

Whereas, The establishment of a CSA program has the potential to benefit thousands of students within Los Angeles Unified School District while generating positive economic and social impacts for the region. Given that potential, it is imperative that we explore the feasibility of establishing such a program in the District in partnership with the City of Los Angeles and the County of Los Angeles; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the Governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District direct the Superintendent to report back in 60 days on the steps necessary to create a Children’s College Savings Accounts program for students enrolling in first grade in all public schools within District boundaries in partnership with the City and County of Los Angeles and any other potential partners;

Resolved further, That the direct the Superintendent to report back on the transmittal of information required to establish a Children’s College Savings Accounts program for students enrolling in first grade in all public schools within District boundaries, and what policies can be put in place to ensure compliance with all applicable laws; and be it finally

Resolved, That the Board direct the Superintendent to report back on the City’s CSA Program Structure, share the previous report from Resolution 058-15/16 (*supra*), and options available for how such a program could be administered, either internally or using outside partner institutions in the financial, philanthropic, and non-profit sectors, and how we can include all public school students within District boundaries.

SUBJECT: Creating Children’s College Savings Accounts to Help Families Save for College
(Res-052-17/18)

AYES **NOES** **ABSTAIN** **ABSENT**

Ms. Gonez	X			
Dr. McKenna	X			
Mr. Melvoin	X			
Dr. Rodriguez	X			
Mr. Schmerelson	X			
Dr. Vladovic	X			
Ms. Garcia	X			
TOTAL	7			

ACTION: ADOPTED