California Dream Act – AB 130 (Cedillo)

Fact Sheet
Revised 7/12/11

What is the Problem?
California high school graduates who have been accepted to our premier public colleges and universities may not be eligible for state financial aid.

According to the San Francisco Chronicle, there are over 25,000 undocumented students who graduate every year from high school. These students confront a difficult challenge of financing their college education because they are ineligible for any federal grants or loans and are unable to legally work, even though they attended and graduated from a California high school. “Many of these youngsters find themselves caught in a catch-22 situation. As [undocumented] immigrants, they cannot work legally. They are also effectively barred from developing academically beyond high school because of the high cost of pursuing higher education. In short, although these children have built their lives here, they have no possibility of achieving and living the American dream. What a tremendous loss for them, and what a tremendous loss to our society.” – Republican U.S. Senator Orrin Hatch author of earlier versions of the federal DREAM Act

What does the Dream Act do?
AB 130 would allow students that meet the in-state tuition requirements to apply for and receive scholarships derived from non-state funds. It has no cost to the state.

Eligible students are those who may qualify for in-state tuition at public colleges and universities in California (California Education Code §68130.5) and meet the following requirements:

1. Must have attended a California high school for 3 or more full academic years (between grades 9 through 12, inclusive and does not need to be consecutive years.
2. Must have or will graduate from a California high school or have attained a G.E.D. or received a passing mark on the California High School Proficiency Exam (CHSPE)
3. Must register or is currently enrolled at an accredited institution of public higher education in California.
4. If undocumented, the filing of an affidavit with the college or university stating that they have applied for a lawful immigration status or will apply as soon as they are eligible to do so.

Supporters:
Advancement Project
AltaMed
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
American Federation of Teachers, Local 2121
Anti-Defamation League (ADL)
Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU)
California Catholic Conference
California Commission on the Status of Women
California Communities United Institute
California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office
California Dream Network
California Federation of Teachers
California Grape & Tree Fruit League
California Immigrant Policy Center
California League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
California Postsecondary Education Commission
California School Employees Association (CSEA), AFL-CIO
California State PTA
California State University (CSU)
California State Student Association (CSSA)
California Student Aid Commission
California Teachers Association (CTA)
Camino Nuevo Charter Academy
Chicano Federation of San Diego County
Chicano Latino Caucus of the California Democratic Party
City of Oakland
City of San Pablo
City of Watsonville
Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)
Community Charter Middle School
Community College League of California
Equality California
Faculty Association of California Community Colleges (FACCC)
Fontana Unified School District
Friends Committee on Legislation of California
Gay-Straight Alliance Network (GSA Network)
Hartnell College
Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities (HACU)
Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE)
Korean Resource Center (KRC)
La Raza Law Students Association at UC Davis
Latino Equality Alliance
Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom
Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles Community College District
Los Angeles County Democratic Party
Los Angeles Leadership Academy
Los Angeles Unified School District
MAAC Community Charter School
Mayor of Los Angeles, Antonio Villaraigosa
Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF)
National Association of Social Workers, California Chapter
National Korean American Service & Education Consortium (NAKASEC)
National Council of La Raza (NCLR)
Nisei Farmers League
Para Los Niños
Peralta Community College District
Rio Hondo Community College District
San Jose-Evergreen Community College District
Santa Rosa Charter Academy
Service Employees International Union, California (SEIU)
Service Employees International Union, United Long Term Care Workers
Services, Immigrant Rights & Education Network (SIREN)
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson
Student Senate for California Community Colleges (SSCCC)
UAW Local 2865
University of California (UC)
University of California Student Association (UCSA)
Western Association for College Admissions Counselors
Yolo County Supervisor, Jim Provenza

**Opposed by:**
Concerned Women for America of California