VENTURA districts and 112

colleges serving 2.6 million students each year; and

WHEREAS, today's elementary, secondary, and postsecondary students are the future leaders, innovators, and scholars of our nation; and

WHEREAS, California has the most populous and diverse student body in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the federal Budget Control Act of 2011 imposes across the board cuts, known as sequestration, amounting to 8.2% cuts to educational grants and programs benefitting California's students; and

WHEREAS, anticipated cuts to TRIO and GEAR-UP will leave low-income and underrepresented California students without the tutoring, counseling, and financial aid assistance necessary for them to access and be successful in college; and

WHEREAS, cuts to English Acquisition State Grants will result in over 113,500 California English Language Learners losing vital services intended to promote language proficiency and academic achievement; and

WHEREAS, 5,700 Federal Work Study recipients and 15,000 Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant recipients will fail to receive $16.7 million in financial aid for college in California; and

WHEREAS, a projected $15 million in cuts to State Grants for Career and Technical Education means over 330,000 California high school and community college students will cease to receive preparation for employment in high demand fields; and

WHEREAS, sequestration would negatively impact Ventura County Community College District's ability to carry out its educational mission as Ventura College, Oxnard College, and Moorpark College educate the Ventura County workforce and are critical contributors in the economic recovery of California.

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Ventura County Community College District strongly urges Congress and the United States President to take all steps necessary to protect students from harmful sequestration cuts to financial aid and educational support services proven successful in Ventura Co~nty, California, and all across the nation.