A RESOLUTION OF THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY, HIGHLAND HEIGHTS, KENTUCKY, TO ADVOCATE FOR STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA) STUDENTS BY ESTABLISHING NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY AS A SAFE COMMUNITY WHICH FOSTERS A POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTS THE RIGHTS AND PRIVACY OF ALL STUDENTS ON CAMPUS.

WHEREAS: As Northern Kentucky University (NKU) continues to make progress in becoming a more inclusive campus, there has been a greater focus on recruiting and retaining more students of Latino descent and diverse backgrounds, and

WHEREAS: Students enrolled in the DACA Program are positive, functioning members of our student body, and as fellow Norse and representatives of the student body, it is our responsibility to support them in a time where their chance to pursue higher education is at risk, and

WHEREAS: While there may be many common misconceptions regarding immigrant students, NKU must continue taking progressive steps to ensure an environment which promotes increasing diversity amongst students, faculty and staff, as well as growing international student enrollment, and

WHEREAS: Fellow educational institutions including Yale University, Wesleyan University, Ohio University, the University of Illinois, Vanderbilt University, and Western Kentucky University, as well as many others, have joined in solidarity with their students, and

WHEREAS: Northern Kentucky University’s Faculty Senate has already issued a Statement of Solidarity on March 16th 2017, resolving, “To stand with all members of the NKU community, of all backgrounds, including race, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, immigration status, and national origin.”, and

WHEREAS: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) of 1974, an active Federal Law, prohibits schools from disclosing information contained in students’ education records to a third party without the written consent of the students in question, and

WHEREAS: Under FERPA, only a lawfully issued subpoena or court order will allow schools to disclose any private student information. As a campus, we should investigate which policies and procedures are active on our campus which highlight the steps taken when the University is served with a subpoena or court order, and

WHEREAS: As an established institution which protects DACA students, and as the Student Government Association of Northern Kentucky University, we must stand together with all students to inform them of their rights and ensure we support each other as a campus, and
WHEREAS: There is a common misconception being circulated that a university’s federal funding may be threatened by informing our classmates and families about the protections they already receive under FERPA. However, an institution should not lose funding unless federal funding conditions are not met and/or violated, and

WHEREAS: NKU has the opportunity to set a standard in our region as an institution who stands behind our students, unafraid to protect their opportunity for education through a turbulent period in our country.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, ON THIS TWENTY-THIRD DAY OF OCTOBER 2017 THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY ADVOCATES FOR STANDING IN SOLIDARITY WITH DEFERRED ACTION FOR CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DACA) STUDENTS BY ESTABLISHING NORTHERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY AS A SAFE COMMUNITY WHICH FOSTERS A POSITIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AND PROTECTS THE RIGHTS AND PRIVACY OF ALL STUDENTS ON CAMPUS.

Signed:  
Sami K. Dada, President

Attest:  
Jachelle Sologuren, Student Rights Committee Chair