Resolution Supporting the Participation of the Skyline College Respiratory Therapy Program in the California Community College Pilot Baccalaureate Degree Program

WHEREAS, The granting of baccalaureate degrees at community colleges is a growing movement nationwide; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 850 authorizes up to fifteen California community college districts to offer a single baccalaureate degree on a pilot basis; and

WHEREAS, The values of Skyline College include a commitment to academic rigor and quality with relevant, recent, and evolving curriculum (Values Statement, 2010 – 2011); and

WHEREAS, One of the goals of Skyline College is to play a central role in the preparation of the region's workforce (Skyline College Balanced Scorecard Goals and Strategies, 2013/14 – 2015/16); and

WHEREAS, There are currently no baccalaureate degree programs for Respiratory Therapy located in any California State University (CSU) or University of California (UC) campus; and

WHEREAS, The Respiratory Therapy Program at Skyline College offers a nationally accredited, rigorous curriculum that meets state and regional workforce needs in a high demand technical discipline; and

WHEREAS, Respiratory Therapy state and national professional organizations are seeking to adopt the baccalaureate degree as the minimum education standard for Respiratory Care Practitioners; and

WHEREAS, The Skyline Respiratory Therapy Advisory Board and regional employers overwhelmingly support baccalaureate degree education at the community college; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Academic Senate of Skyline College supports the participation of the Skyline College Respiratory Therapy Program in the California Community College Pilot Baccalaureate Degree Program which commences no later than the 2017-18 academic year.

Ray Hernandez, Dennis Wolbers
Passed by unanimous voice vote of the Curriculum Committee on November 3, 2014