RESOLUTION NO 2012-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELL, CALIFORNIA URGING THE LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TO RECONFIRM ITS COMMITMENT TO ADULT AND CAREER EDUCATION, AND TO COMMIT TO PRESERVE FUNDING FOR THE DIVISION OF ADULT AND CAREER EDUCATION AT THE 2011-2012 LEVEL

Whereas, The Legislature has declared that all adults in California are entitled to publicly supported continuing education opportunities (EC §8500);

Whereas, In its June 26, 2007 resolution on Adult Education, the Los Angeles Unified School District Board found that Los Angeles has the most undereducated and underemployed adult population of any major metropolitan region in the United States;

Whereas, LAUSD's Adult Education and Career Education program is funded by property owners, businesses and workers in the District's local communities, including Bell, Cudahy, Huntington Park, Maywood, South Gate and Vernon, as well as other areas of the District;

Whereas, The United States Department of Education and the United States Department of Labor contribute approximately twenty million dollars per year to the District's Adult and Career Education program;

Whereas, Annually more than 85,000 high school students take Adult and Career Education courses to make up credits; and, more than 50,000 high school students take Career Technical Education courses provided by the Division of Adult and Career Education annually;

Whereas, An average of 10% of LAUSD's high school dropouts enroll in Adult and Career Education courses annually, reducing the District's 2010-2011 dropout rate;

Whereas, In its June 26, 2007 resolution on Adult Education, this Board also found that providing educational services to parents of school-age children is one of the most cost-effective ways to improve the school performance of children;

Whereas, More than 50,000 parents of LAUSD's school-age children attend Division of Adult and Career Education classes annually;

Whereas, Parents enrolled in Division ESL classes learn how to assist their children with school work and dedicate over one million hours a year to tutoring their own children;

Whereas, The American Institutes for Research has found that children participating with their parents in Division Family Literacy programs are better prepared to enter kindergarten, have higher attendance rates in elementary school, and perform better on the English language arts and mathematics sections of the California Standards Test than comparable groups of children;

Whereas, In partnership with the Facilities Division, the Division of Adult and Career Education has implemented the WE BUILD program, successfully training local residents to work in the District's school construction projects;

Whereas, The Division's Apprenticeship Program receives full reimbursement to serve as the state-approved educational agency for 5,000 union-sponsored apprentices including industrial and residential painters, floor layers, roofers, plumbers, sheet metal workers and machinists;

Whereas, Through agreements with the Los Angeles, South Bay and Pacific Gateway Investment Boards, Employment Development Department, and community-based organizations, the Division provides adult education and job training to high-risk in and out of school youth, unemployed adults and parents; and

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELL, CALIFORNIA DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

Section 1. That the Bell City Council urge the governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District to reconfirm its commitment to Adult and Career Education;

Section 2. That the Bell City Council urge the governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District to commit and preserve funding for the Division of Adult and Career Education at the 2011-2012 level so as to provide the fiscal stability required to deliver "quality publicly supported continuing education opportunities" for the communities we serve.

Section 3. That the Bell City Council will commit to working with the governing Board of the Los Angeles Unified School District to make the Regional Occupational Center that is currently being built in our city become one of the most thriving centers in the region.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED THIS 7TH DAY OF MARCH, 2012

Ali Saleh, Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

David Aleshire, City Attorney

CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTATION AND ORIGINALITY

I, Patricia Healy, Interim City Clerk of the City of Bell, hereby attest to and certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Bell City Council at its regular meeting held on the 7th day of March, 2012, by the following vote:

AYES:	Alvarez, Quintana, Valencia, Harber, Saleh (5)
NOES:	None (0)
ABSENT:	None (0)
ABSTAIN:	None 0)

Patricia Healy, Interim City Clerk