



## Sample Resolution

Use this example to develop your own resolution and keep us posted if you introduce or pass it at [droptheiword@colorlines.com](mailto:droptheiword@colorlines.com).

**WHEREAS** we take great pride in the diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds represented on our campus and our continuing commitment to enhance our great legacy of preparing leaders from all segments of society to make significant contributions all over the world, and

**WHEREAS** the next generation of leaders understands that immigrant rights is an urgent issue of our day that has been clouded by increasingly hateful and hostile public discourse in media and government, and

**WHEREAS** we are aware that certain racially derogatory language used in media, political discourse and other institutional settings has historically bolstered the foundation for racially harmful actions including racial profiling practices, punitive policies targeting socially marginalized groups, hate crimes and violence, and

**WHEREAS** the use of the term illegals (the “I-word”) and its derivatives when referring to people dehumanizes and divides communities, contributing to punitive and discriminatory actions aimed primarily at immigrants and communities of color, and

**WHEREAS** the racially derogatory I-Word endangers basic human rights including the presumption of innocence and the right to due process guaranteed under the U.S. Constitution, and

**WHEREAS** the I-Word is legally inaccurate since being out of status is a civil rather than criminal infraction and

**WHEREAS** journalists have an obligation to use neutral language that promotes democratic dialogue and upholds professional ethics and standards, and the term illegals is incorrect and inaccurate usage, as well as unfair and offensive, therefore

**LET IT BE RESOLVED** that our Students Association believes:

No human being is illegal; Human beings need to be central in immigration discussions in order to move toward a more civilized and humane tone in public discourse and policies on immigration; Foreign nationals, undocumented immigrant, unauthorized immigrant, immigrant without papers and immigrant seeking status are examples of terms we can use that do not dehumanize people. We can all stop unintentionally fueling racial profiling and violence directed toward immigrants, when we Drop the I-Word.

**LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED** that as a community we:

Affirm the dignity and human rights of all persons; Use language that reflects our most basic values; Promote racial equity, justice and unity for a brighter future.

**LET IT BE FINALLY RESOLVED** that we endorse the Drop the I-Word campaign and join communities across the country in asking all media organizations and journalists to uphold ethical and professional journalism standards by dropping the I-Word today.