WHEREAS, the not-for-profit organization Women Employed has formally articulated a commitment to developing a first-class workforce in Illinois by investing in specialized programs promoting college access and success for low-income workers; and

WHEREAS, Women Employed has voiced a commitment through its Clear Connections Project to help more low-income Illinois workers graduate from college and move on to better paying careers by, strengthening access to and quality of student academic and support services within colleges; and

WHEREAS, Women Employed has created programs providing access to high quality student supports, including high quality career guidance and advisement, to enable them to complete certificates or degrees leading to higher paying careers; and

WHEREAS, Women Employed offers a program to help low-income parents pay for child care expenses while enrolled in college or in a job training program; and

WHEREAS, Women Employed has developed a Strategies for Success curriculum project to improve student retention by providing innovative career planning assistance, including a career development curriculum guide and lesson plans with hand-outs to help students learn about careers, choose a target career and select the education or training they need to attain that career; and

WHEREAS, the City Colleges of Chicago shares in each of these commitments and seeks to collaborate with Women Employed in pursuing these objectives for the benefit of its students by becoming a Women Employed coalition member at no cost to the District.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City Colleges of Chicago announces its formal support of the initiatives articulated above by Women Employed and in the interests of its students will collaborate with Women Employed on these goals by working in tandem with the organization and becoming an institutional member of the Women Employed coalition.