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10 SUPERIOR COURT OF ARIZONA
11 MARICOPA COUNTY

12 STATE OF ARIZONA ex rel. Attorney
General Thomas C. Horne,

13 Plaintiff,

14 vs.

15 MARICOPA COUNTY COMMUNITY
16 COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD,

17 Defendant,

18 ABEL BADILLO, BIBIANA VAZQUEZ,
19 and BIBIANA CANALES

20 Intervenors-Defendants.

21 ABEL BADILLO, BIBIANA VAZQUEZ,
22 and BIBIANA CANALES

23 Counter-Plaintiffs,

24 vs.

25 STATE OF ARIZONA ex rel. Attorney
General Thomas C. Horne,

26 Counter-Defendant.

Case No. CV2013-009093

**ARIZONA'S RESPONSE TO
INTERVENORS' MOTION
FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

(Assigned to the Honorable Arthur
Anderson)

(Oral Argument Requested)

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1 Plaintiff the State of Arizona ex rel. Thomas C. Horne (“Arizona”) responds to the
2 Motion for Summary Judgment by Student Intervenors Abel Badillo, Bibiana Vazquez and
3 Bibiana Canales (collectively, the “Student Intervenors”).¹ The Student Intervenors seek
4 summary judgment against the State, asserting that its enforcement action against MCCCDC is
5 preempted by federal law and violates the equal protection clause. The Student Intervenors’
6 preemption argument should be rejected; Arizona law is consistent with federal law, not in
7 conflict with it. And, the Student Intervenors cannot show that Arizona has violated the equal
8 protection clause by requiring MCCCDC to comply with state law on this issue.

9 This Court should deny Student Intervenors’ motion for summary judgment. There are
10 no facts at issue in this matter at this time. In fact, Student Intervenors moved for summary
11 judgment on their equal protection claim before making any disclosure supporting that claim.
12 Because Student Intervenors chose to move for summary judgment on this claim before
13 exchanging disclosure statements, this Court should infer that they possess no other facts in
14 support of their equal protection claim.² Because they chose to make a dispositive motion
15 without engaging in discovery, this Court should infer that they do not expect that Arizona
16 possesses any relevant facts either. This Court should reject also reject Student Intervenors’
17 request, in footnote 3, that they be allowed to conduct discovery in support of their claim.
18 Student Intervenors did not make a proper request under Rule 56(f), because they failed to

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20
21 ¹ As a preliminary matter, Arizona states that it fails to understand how the Student Intervenors
22 can respond to Arizona’s Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings. That Motion is directed solely
23 to MCCCDC’s action of allowing DACA recipients to pay in-state tuition in violation of A.R.S. §
24 15-1803. It is not directed at the Student Intervenors, who in fact, had not been allowed to
25 intervene at the time that Motion was filed. (Arizona moved for judgment on the pleadings on
26 February 26, 2014; the court permitted intervention on March 31, 2014.) Moreover, rather than
27 responding to Arizona’s Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings, the Student Intervenors devote
28 themselves to their motion for summary judgment. To the extent the Student Intervenors
response is permitted, Arizona incorporates the reply portion of its Reply in Support of Its
Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings and Response to MCCCDC’s Motion for Summary
Judgment.

² Student Intervenors’ Disclosure Statement is attached to Arizona’s Responsive Statement of
Facts Regarding Intervenors’ Claims (“RSOF-I”) as Exhibit A. Pages 8-9 address their equal
protection claim and contain no facts. Student Intervenors did not disclose any documents
substantiating their claim, and listed no witnesses, other than themselves, Governor Janice
Brewer and former state senator Russell Pearce.

1 provide an affidavit specifying the reasons that they could not present evidence in support of
2 their motion, and did not certify that they engaged in “personal consultation and good faith
3 efforts” to resolve the matter. Ariz. R. Civ. P. 56(f)(1) and (3).

4 **I. The Student Intervenor Proceed Based on Flawed Premises.**

5 The Student Intervenor proceed from several incorrect premises. They first assert that
6 as DACA beneficiaries, they “qualify for in-state tuition under . . . [8 U.S.C. §] 1623” and
7 A.R.S. § 15-1803(B). In so doing, they misconstrue both federal and state law. Second, they
8 assert that Arizona has somehow “changed its position” regarding deferred action because it
9 previously accepted “lawful presence” as the standard for eligibility for in-state tuition, but no
10 longer does so, in the wake of the DACA Memorandum. They provide no evidence to support
11 this allegation. Finally, they accuse Arizona of targeting DACA recipients, but fail to present
12 any evidence in support of this contention.

13 **A. Federal Law Does Not “Grant Eligibility” for In-State Tuition.**

14 The Student Intervenor first err by arguing that 8 U.S.C. § 1623 grants DACA
15 beneficiaries eligibility for in-state tuition. Defendant-Intervenor’s Motion for Summary
16 Judgment and Response to Arizona’s Motion for Judgment on the Pleadings (hereinafter,
17 “Intervenor’s Response and MSJ”), at 4. It does not. Section 1623 must be read in conjunction
18 with section 1621, which generally governs access to state and local public benefits. Section
19 1621 prevents those who are not qualified aliens from access to state and local public benefits,
20 including “any . . . postsecondary education . . . or any other similar benefit for which
21 payments or assistance are provided to an individual . . . by an agency of a State or local
22 government or by appropriated funds of a State or local government.” In-state tuition is a state
23 or local public benefit. *Martinez v. Regents of the Univ. of Cal.*, 166 Cal. Rptr. 3d 518, 531
24 (2008), *rev’d on other grounds*, 241 P.3d 855 (2010). See also Kate M. Manuel, *Unlawfully*
25 *Present Aliens, Higher Education, In-state Tuition, and Financial Aid: Legal Analysis*, at 7
26 (Congressional Research Service, July 21, 2014) (hereinafter, *CRS Unlawfully Present Aliens*
27 *Report*) (“In-state tuition has generally been considered a public benefit, and PRWORA and
28 IIRIRA restrict the circumstances in which states may provide public benefits to unlawfully

1 present aliens.” (For the Court’s convenience, a copy of this report is attached Arizona’s
2 RSOF–I as Ex. B.)

3 Section 1623 constitutes a narrowing of a state’s ability to provide in-state tuition
4 benefits to those not here lawfully. It “prohibits a state from making unlawful aliens eligible
5 ‘on the basis of residence within a State’ for a postsecondary education benefit.” *Martinez v.*
6 *Regents of the Univ. of Cal.*, 241 P.3d 855, 863 (2010), quoting 8 U.S.C. § 1623(a).³ Contrary
7 to the Student Intervenors’ argument, this provision does not grant eligibility for in-state
8 tuition, but rather regulates the manner in which a state may offer such eligibility.

9 Student Intervenors compound the error of relying on 8 U.S.C. § 1623 as granting
10 eligibility for in-state tuition when they misinterpret the reference in A.R.S. § 15-1803(B) to
11 the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act (“IIRIRA”). They argue
12 that A.R.S. § 15-1803’s incorporation of that Act somehow incorporates a specific definition of
13 immigration status that is different than the immigration status stated in Arizona law. But
14 section 1623 does not do this. To the extent that section 1623 can be said to refer to a specific
15 immigration status, it should be read in connection with 8 U.S.C. § 1621, which draws a
16 distinction between qualified aliens (described at 8 U.S.C. § 1621(a)) and unqualified aliens.
17 Because DACA recipients are not qualified aliens, they are among those prohibited by 8 U.S.C.
18 § 1621 from having access to state and local public benefits.

19 Student Intervenors also argue that the Attorney General’s interpretation of A.R.S. § 15-
20 1803 and 1825 in Arizona Attorney General Opinion I11-87 concludes that “lawful presence”
21 suffices to establish eligibility for in-state tuition. Intervenors’ Response and MSJ, at 5. Even
22

23 ³ *Martinez* rejected a challenge to a California state statute that grants in-state tuition to those
24 persons who meet three requirements: 1) they possess a California high school degree; 2) that if
25 they are unlawful aliens, they affirm that they will try to legalize their status; and 3) they have
26 attended high school in California for three or more years. Several other states have enacted
27 similar statutes that allow in-state tuition on a basis other than residence. *See e.g.* Colo. Rev.
28 Stat. § 23-7-110; N.J. Stat. Ann. 18A:62-4.4; N.M. Stat. Ann. § 21-1-4.6. At one point before
referral to the voters, Proposition 300 included provisions that would have allowed those who
attended public school in Arizona for six years, graduated from public high school here and
whose parent paid income tax here for six preceding taxable years to pay in-state tuition to be
classified as an in-state student for tuition purposes. S. Con. Res. 1031, 47th Leg., 2d Reg. Sess.
(Ariz. 2006), attached to Arizona’s RSOF–I as Ex. C.

1 a casual perusal of the Opinion, however, demonstrates that this conclusion is not supported.
2 Rather, this Opinion should be seen in context of previous law, which allowed those who were
3 domiciled in Arizona to pay in-state tuition, regardless of immigration status. Ariz. Op. Att’y
4 Gen. I87-139.

5 **B. Employment Authorization Documents Are Not Evidence of Eligibility for**
6 **In-State Tuition.**

7 Student Intervenors also argue that MCCCCD has accepted Employment Authorization
8 Documents (“EADs”) as evidence of lawful presence and eligibility for in-state tuition since
9 Proposition 300 was passed in 2006, including EADs issued to DACA recipients. Intervenors’
10 Response and MSJ, at 4, citing Exhibit A to the Declaration of Nathan J. Fidel. This
11 information is supported only by a statement by MCCCCD regarding its practice. This is not
12 competent evidence and, in any event, is irrelevant. This Court should reject Student
13 Intervenors’ *ipse dixit* argument; EADs are not valid evidence of eligibility for in-state tuition
14 simply because MCCCCD says they are. Moreover, the reference to 8 C.F.R. § 274a12(c)(14)
15 adds nothing to the argument, as that regulation addresses “classes of aliens authorized to
16 accept employment.” It has nothing to do with immigration status under state or federal law.

17 Likewise, A.R.S. § 1-502 does not necessarily allow a noncitizen to use an EAD to
18 demonstrate eligibility for in-state tuition. Attorney General Opinion I10-008 explains that
19 federal law governs eligibility for state and local public benefits, limiting eligibility to “a
20 citizen, a qualified alien, a nonimmigrant, or an alien who is paroled into the United States
21 under § 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Naturalization Act.” Ariz. Op. Att’y Gen. I10-008
22 (December 28, 2010), quoting 8 U.S.C. § 1182(d)(5). It further explains that the list of
23 documents in §1-502 “do not all satisfy the citizenship or immigration status requirements that
24 the federal government has established for public benefits other than Medicaid.”⁴ *Id.* It thus
25 recommends that “For state and local public benefits, agencies should comply with A.R.S. § 1-

26 _____
27 ⁴ The Opinion provides examples, noting that an I-94, which is one of the documents listed in 1-
28 502, is not always evidence of lawful presence. Ariz. Op. Att’y Gen. I10-008 (December 28,
2010). Conversely, the Attorney General noted that a “permanent resident card,” which is not
listed, qualifies for purposes of establishing eligibility for state and local public benefits. *Id.*

1 502 and take additional steps as necessary to ensure that recipients of the benefits satisfy the
2 eligibility requirements in 8 U.S.C § 1621.” *Id.* Put more simply, MCCCCD cannot simply rely
3 on the list of documents in A.R.S. § 1-502; it must consult other guidance to determine
4 eligibility for specific benefits.

5 In any event, A.R.S. § 1-502 must be interpreted in harmony with A.R.S. §§ 15-1803
6 and 1825, both of which are protected by the Voter Protection Act, which “limits the
7 legislature's authority to amend measures approved by voters.” *Arizona Early Childhood Dev.*
8 *and Health Bd. v. Brewer*, 221 Ariz. 467, 469, ¶ 6, 212 P.3d 805, 807 (2009) (describing Voter
9 Protection Act, Ariz. Const. art. 4, pt. 1, § 1(C)-(D).)

10 **C. No Evidence Supports Student Intervenors’ Contention that the Attorney**
11 **General Targeted DACA Recipients.**

12 The Student Intervenors allege that Arizona has unfairly targeted DACA recipients and
13 changed its position regarding the eligibility of deferred action recipients for in-state tuition
14 after the DACA program was announced. Intervenors’ Response and MSJ, at 6. The Student
15 Intevenors cite no evidence to support these allegations. They merely note the Governor’s
16 opposition to the DACA Memorandum. They also assert that the Attorney General Opinion
17 I11-007 somehow represents a conclusion that DACA recipients are eligible for in-state tuition
18 and that the present lawsuit reverses that position. Because this contention is unsupported by
19 any evidence, it should be rejected.

20 **II. The Student Intervenors Fail to Establish that A.R.S. §§ 15-1803 and 1825 are**
21 **Preempted.**

22 Student Intervenors assert that the Immigration and Nationality Act preempts A.R.S. §§
23 1825 and 1803. They rely on conflict preemption. Conflict preemption occurs when “the
24 challenged state law ‘stands as an obstacle to the accomplishment and execution of the full
25 purposes and objectives of Congress.” *Arizona v. United States*, 132 S. Ct. 2492, 2501 (2012).

26 Student Intervenors fail to identify the federal law that preempts state law, asserting only
27 that that Arizona’s reading of Proposition 300 “conflicts with federal immigration law
28 determining eligibility for resident tuition.” Intervenors’ Response and MSJ, at 13.

1 Presumably, they rely on 8 U.S.C. § 1623. As established above, however, neither 8 U.S.C. §
2 1621 nor § 1623 establishes eligibility for in-state tuition. Rather, section 1621 “generally bars
3 states from providing such benefits to unlawfully present aliens unless they enact legislation
4 that ‘affirmatively provides’ for unlawfully present aliens’ eligibility.” *CRS Unlawfully*
5 *Present Aliens Report*, at 7. And, section 1623 “has been described as ‘narrowing states’
6 authority under PRWORA.” *Id.* Federal statutes, like 8 U.S.C. §§ 1621 and 1623, that prohibit
7 states from offering certain benefits except under specified conditions cannot preempt state
8 statutes that confirm such prohibitions.

9 Student Intervenors also argue that Arizona has created a different classification scheme
10 for noncitizens than the federal government does. However, they have presented no evidence
11 that Arizona has created any classification scheme. This action represents a single instance of
12 enforcement against one party that announced it would implement a policy that the state
13 believed was contrary to law. *Hispanic Interest Coal. of Ala. v. Bentley*, No. 5:11-CV-2484-
14 SLB, 2011 WL 5516953, at *22 (N.D. Ala. Sept. 28, 2011) is inapposite; the statute at issue
15 there required that aliens attending public postsecondary education in Alabama possess either
16 “lawful permanent residence or an appropriate nonimmigrant visa.” In other words, this
17 section of Alabama’s statute created its own definition of “lawfully present” for purposes of
18 attendance at postsecondary institutions. *Id.* at *23. Arizona’s statute creates no such
19 classification. This Court should dismiss Student Intervenors’ preemption claim, because they
20 fail to establish that federal law conflicts with, and preempts, state law.

21 **III. The Student Intervenors Fail to Establish an Equal Protection Violation.**

22 Student Intervenors also assert that Arizona’s actions violate the Equal Protection clause
23 of the federal constitution. Intervenors’ Response and MSJ, at 14. However, neither their
24 complaint in intervention nor their motion for summary judgment clearly set out the basis for
25 an equal protection claim. They state that Arizona is “ignoring federal eligibility requirements
26 regarding a [sic] noncitizens’ eligibility for resident tuition.” *Id.* However, as noted already,
27 federal law restricts eligibility for resident tuition, rather than granting it.

1 In any event, any equal protection claim by Student Intervenors is more properly judged
2 as a claim of selective enforcement in violation of the equal protection clause, because this
3 matter represents the state’s effort to enforce MCCCDC’s compliance with state law. As the
4 federal district court of Arizona recently explained,

5
6 To state an equal protection claim based on the allegedly selective enforcement of a law,
7 plaintiff must show that the law is applied in a discriminatory manner or imposes
8 different burdens on different classes of people. To do so, plaintiff must identify a
9 ‘similarly situated’ class against which plaintiff’s class can be compared. Then, if the
alleged selective enforcement does not implicate a fundamental right or a suspect
classification, the plaintiff can establish a “class of one” equal protection claim by
demonstrating that [he] has been intentionally treated differently from others similarly
situated and that there is no rational basis for the difference in treatment.

10 *Dowling v. Arpaio*, 858 F. Supp. 2d 1063, 1081 (D. Ariz. 2012) (internal quotations omitted).
11 Furthermore, “[t]he conscious exercise of some selectivity in enforcement is not in itself a
12 federal constitutional violation.” *Bordenkircher v. Hayes*, 434 U.S. 357, 364, 398 (1978).

13 In *Dowling*, the district court dismissed a selective enforcement claim because the
14 plaintiff failed to provide “enough information about similarly situated individuals for the
15 Court to determine that Dowling was treated differently than others similarly situated.” *Id.*, at
16 1081-82. Here, as in *Dowling*, Student Intervenors have failed to identify “a similarly situated
17 class” against which their class can be compared. Their Statement of Facts includes nothing
18 that supports a claim of selective enforcement. Their Complaint and Disclosure Statement are
19 similarly lacking. See Ex. A to Arizona’s RSOF–I. Thus, here, as in *Dowling*, the Court must
20 reject the claim of selective prosecution in violation of the equal protection clause.

21 Even if the Court were to reach Student Intervenors’ equal protection claim, it would
22 have to judge such a claim using the rational basis test. *Ariz. Dream Coal. v. Brewer*, 945 F.
23 Supp. 2d 1049, 1067-68 (D. Ariz. 2013) (applying rational basis review to equal protection
24 claims of DACA recipients) *rev’d on other grounds*, No. 13–16248, 2014 WL 3029759 (9th
25 Cir. July 7, 2014). Student Intervenors lack lawful status. Because they lack lawful status,
26 their claims are subject to rational basis scrutiny. As a recent Congressional Research Service
27 report explained, Supreme Court decisions apply a standard of scrutiny higher than rational
28 basis only when the matter involves lawful permanent residents. *CRS Unlawfully Present*

1 *Aliens Report*, at 4. The only exception is *Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202, 220-21 (1982), which
2 created a special “intermediate scrutiny” for elementary and secondary school children, and
3 even Plyler noted that “undocumented status is not irrelevant.” Student Intervenors’ reliance
4 *Kurti v. Maricopa County* is misplaced: the Kurtis were lawful permanent residents. 201 Ariz.
5 165, 167, n. 1, ¶1, 33 P.2d 499, 501 (App. 2010).

6 **Conclusion**

7 For the reasons state above, Arizona respectfully requests that this Court deny Student
8 Intervenors’ Motion for Summary Judgment.

9
10 DATED this 19th day of August, 2014.

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