



In the News

February 9, 2017

Outlet: Sacramento Bee

Title: California bills would provide lower college tuition, workforce help to refugees

Publication Date: February 8, 2017

Summary: As the nation awaits a court ruling on President Donald Trump's executive order temporarily barring refugees from entering the United States, California lawmakers had a different message Wednesday: You are welcome here.

Assembly Bill 343 would immediately grant in-state tuition rates to refugees who want to enroll at California's public colleges and universities, rather than forcing them to wait a year to establish residency. It would also qualify refugees who worked as interpreters for U.S. armed forces overseas for the same counseling services and priority enrollment that veterans receive.

Facing danger to his life and family for his service as an U.S. Army interpreter in Afghanistan, Hamidulla Hamidy resettled in Sacramento in 2014. Unable to find a job, he said, he wanted to take classes at a local community college to improve his English, but could not afford the fees and did not yet qualify for financial aid.

Hamidy is now enrolled at **American River College** and hopes to eventually become an information technology specialist.

URL: <http://www.sacbee.com/news/politics-government/capitol-alert/article131539859.html>

Los Rios *In the News* is published twice weekly by the Los Rios Community College District's Communications Office. To subscribe (or unsubscribe), please send an email to winklet@losrios.edu with "In the News" in the subject field and "subscribe" or "unsubscribe" in the body of the email.