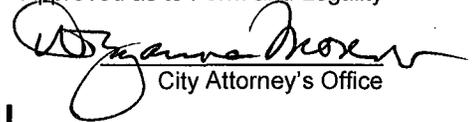


FILED  
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
OAKLAND

Approved as to Form and Legality

  
City Attorney's Office

2015 MAY 14  
OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL  
Resolution No. 85585 C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT LYNETTE GIBSON MCELHANEY

**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 1014  
WHICH WOULD CREATE A GRANTS PROGRAM THROUGH THE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO SCHOOLS SEEKING TO  
RESOLVE CHRONIC ATTENDANCE PROBLEMS FOR CHILDREN IN  
KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE**

**WHEREAS**, students who are chronically absent between Kindergarten and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade face significant challenges to becoming proficient at grade level reading skills, due to the loss of class time in which they miss key elements in the pedagogical sequencing of literacy skills; and

**WHEREAS**, a child who has been chronically absent continues to face these academic challenges throughout their educational career and is far more likely to drop out of school than their peers, and this lack of educational attainment can often lead to contact with the criminal justice system; and

**WHEREAS**, only 17 percent of chronically absent kindergartners and first graders in California read proficiently by grade 3 and pupils who do not read proficiently by grade 3 are four times more likely to drop out of school, and children who drop out of school cost the state more than \$46 billion each year, including more than \$1 billion in juvenile crime costs alone; and

**WHEREAS**, ninety percent of elementary school pupils with severe attendance problems, missing 36 or more days in the school year, are estimated to be from low-income families; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 2013–14 school year, 250,000 elementary school pupils and 1 in 10 pupils from low-income families were chronically absent, missing 10 percent or more of the school year; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 2013–14 school year, African American elementary school pupils were the highest subgroup, including homeless pupils, to be truant and these pupils are chronically truant at four times the rate of all other pupils; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 2012–13 school year, one in five, or 744,085, elementary school pupils were truant, an increase of 1.2 percent from the 2011–12 school year; and

**WHEREAS**, when a student is absent, the school loses funding that is attributed to that student's Average Daily Attendance, causing fewer resources to be available at that school; and

**WHEREAS**, in the 2010–11 school year, California schools lost \$1.4 billion in average daily attendance funding due to pupil absences and California school districts have lost over \$3.5 billion between the 2010–11 and 2013–14 school years; and

**WHEREAS**, Assembly Bill 1014, authored by Assemblymember Tony Thurmond, would provide grants for schools seeking to reduce their chronic absenteeism by providing Early Intervention Attendance Grant funds which can be used to pay for training programs for school and attendance staff, for phone outreach programs and for outreach advocate positions who will work with parents to determine barriers to attendance and provide resources to overcome the obstacles that have detrimental on their child's education; and

**WHEREAS**, because early intervention in addressing chronic absenteeism prevents a student from ever getting academically behind, Assembly Bill 1014 will only fund grants to programs supporting students in Kindergarten to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade; and

**WHEREAS**, early intervention efforts have proven fiscally and academically positive, such as an effort by the Berkeley Unified School District in 2009-2010, in which the district spent \$100,000 on attendance programs to reduce chronic absenteeism, to which they generated \$500,000 additional dollars in Average Daily Attendance funding; and now therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** That the City Council of Oakland strongly supports the passage of California Assembly Bill 1014.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,  
PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

**MAY 19 2015**

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL-WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLEN, KALB, KAPLAN, ~~REID~~ AND  
PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY —7

NOES - 0  
ABSENT - 0  
ABSTENTION - 0

Excused - Reid - 1

ATTEST:

  
LATONDA SIMMONS

City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the  
City of Oakland, California