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OAKLAND
OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL


City Attorney

11 JUN -2 PM 3: 14

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBERS NADEL AND BRUNNER

**RESOLUTION HONORING RABBI STEVEN ALAN CHESTER
ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 40 YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE RABBINATE**

WHEREAS, Rabbi Steven A. Chester has served 22 years of his distinguished 40 year career in the rabbinate in the City of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Chester has provided generous and outstanding service to the City of Oakland serving on the Mayor's Human Rights Commission, the Faith-based Advisory Committee for the Oakland Police Department and as Jewish Chaplain for the Oakland Fire Department; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Chester has dedicated countless hours to the promotion of peace and justice in the City of Oakland as member of the Oakland Interfaith Dialogue, facilitator of the Black-Jewish Dialogue, and as steadfast spokesperson for the local Jewish community on all matters of social justice, anti-violence and reconciliation; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Chester has been a champion in the fight against hunger and inequality acting as an advocate for the Alameda County Community Food Bank and spearheading the yearly donation of over 14,000 pounds of food to those who are homeless, hungry and in need; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Chester has been a luminary in the Jewish community serving as President of the East Bay Board of Rabbis, President of the Pacific Association of Reform Rabbis, Member of the National Think Tank on the Future of the Reform Movement, Chairperson of the Jewish Community Relations Council of the East Bay, Member of the Board of the Jewish Community Federation and as part of the National Joint Commission on Social Action of the Reform Movement; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Chester has been a consummate leader, mentor, colleague and friend to all those at First Hebrew Congregation of Oakland, devoting over 20 years of service, expanding membership to nearly 1,000 households, helping engineer a 13 million dollar capital campaign, and helping celebrate innumerable moments of joy as well as ministering comfort in times of sadness; now, therefore, be it:

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby recognizes and honors, Rabbi Steven Alan Chester for his unparalleled and bountiful years of service to the City of Oakland upon his

retirement, and expresses deep appreciation and commends Rabbi Chester on behalf of the citizens of Oakland.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, BRUNNER, DE LA FUENTE, KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, SCHAAF, and PRESIDENT REID

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: _____
LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California