## OFFICE OF THE OFFI OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

City Attorney

OH MAR 25 RESIDENTION NO. 78438 C.M.S.

## Commending The "Students Run Oakland" (SRO) Program For Outstanding Achievement And Contribution To Oakland Youth

WHEREAS, Students Run Oakland (SRO) is a small non-profit running program that prepares at risk students to face the challenges of daily life. SRO was founded in Oakland in 1999 by a small group of concerned Oakland residents who enjoy running and want to make a difference in their community; and

WHEREAS, Under the leadership of Executive Director of SRO, Spencer Hooper, the program encourages youth in Oakland high schools to use the concept of marathon training to set and achieve goals in every aspect of life. The students steadily increase their mileage and strength through long runs on weekends, track workouts after school and training sessions at the Oakland YMCA. The after school running is designed to encourage a sense of teamwork as the students run together and support each individual's progress; and

WHEREAS, SRO provides students with a safe environment in which they can build there self-esteem, self-confidence, and self-reliance. Students become engaged in positive after school activity that allows them to engage in physically challenging, rewarding activity with their peers; and

WHEREAS, The races SRO participants run in, give students an opportunity to travel outside of their community, and experience running with large, diverse groups of people. Most recently, 26 students participated in a 26.2 mile Marathon in Los Angeles and all 26 completed the race successfully. The Students Run Oakland program creates a structured and safe environment that stresses the importance of regular school attendance and promotes a healthier lifestyle; now therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That the Oakland City Council commends the Students Run Oakland program for enriching the community and the youth of Oakland, and for its uniqueness as an after school program that allows students who may not otherwise be involved in extracurricular sports to engage in such a rewarding activity with their peer; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Oakland City Council, do hereby recognize the Student Run Oakland program as an unique after school program, and commends its leaders for an outstanding service and dedication to Oakland youth and proclaim April 6, 2004 as

## "Students Run Oakland Day"

in the City of Oakland and encourage its recognition by all its citizens

of the City of Oakland, California

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,	APR	6 2004	, 20
PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:			
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