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OAKLAND

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OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

DRAFT

City Attorney

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember Nancy J. Nadel

RESOLUTION CELEBRATING THE MONTH OF MAY 2008 AS 'COMMUNITY ACTION MONTH' IN THE CITY OF OAKLAND, IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICES AND ADVOCACY OF COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCIES NATIONWIDE THAT PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS WHO ARE LIVING IN POVERTY, AND JOINING THE COMMUNITY ACTION NETWORK'S *ROOTING OUT POVERTY* CAMPAIGN

WHEREAS, 37 million (13%) Americans out of a total of 297 million people nationwide now live in poverty, according to the most recent U.S. Census figures; and

WHEREAS, the Center for American Progress reports 17.9% of America's children, 1 in 5, are documented as living in poverty; and

WHEREAS, 4.7 million Californians live in poverty, a rate of 13%, higher than the national average; and

WHEREAS, the average poverty threshold for a family of four in 2008 is \$21,200; for a family of three is \$17,600; and for a family of two is \$14,000; and

WHEREAS, the California Budget Project reports that due to the Bay Area's high cost of living, it would cost a family of four \$70,000 to meet their basic needs annually; and

WHEREAS, UCLA Center for Health Policy estimates that 6.5 million, or 1 out of 5 Californians, lack health insurance coverage; and

WHEREAS, in Alameda County 11% (158,812) of the population currently lives in poverty; and

WHEREAS, the 2005 American Community Survey (ACS) reported that 18.2% (68,148) of Oakland's residents lives in poverty; 25.2 % are children under the age of 18; and 16% are seniors 65 and over; and

WHEREAS, since 1971, through the creation of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, the City of Oakland's Community Action Agency (Oakland's Community Action Partnership – OCAP) has been addressing and serving the needs of Oakland's low-income population by providing innovative programs to promote self-sufficiency and put an end to poverty; and

WHEREAS, in 2008, the Community Action Network launched its *Rooting Out Poverty* Campaign which is a national call to action for all anti-poverty initiatives to continue with the commitment of establishing opportunities to make it possible for those living in economic insufficiency to move up to self-sufficiency by generating economic and social changes that will continue to up lift our neighborhoods and our communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City of Oakland accepts the *Rooting Out Poverty* Campaign's call to action and will continue to build a city in which all communities and families can thrive, and where all working families are provided a living wage, affordable housing, quality health care, and excellent education in an effort to eradicate poverty in Oakland; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council does hereby celebrate May 2008 as National Community Action Month in the City of Oakland in recognition of the services and advocacy of over 1100 Community Action Agencies nationwide that provide assistance to the millions of Americans who are living in poverty throughout our nation.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, and PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

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