OFFICE OF THE OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL 2005 SEP - S PH 3: 07 C.M.S.

Approved as to Form and Legality

Resolution in Support of Adult Education

WHEREAS, close to 30,000 adult students rely on the Adult Education Program of Oakland Public Schools for essential courses in English as a Second Language (ESL), Citizenship, Graduate Equivalent Degrees (GED), and Healthy Living:

WHEREAS, many of these adult students are parents of the approximately 15,000 Oakland Public School students who are classified as English Language Learners because their family does not speak English as a primary language, and

WHEREAS, many of these parents are recent immigrants to this country who do not meet the enrollment requirements for ESL programs at the community college level, and these courses are offered close to or in many of our local schools increasing ties and participation in their children's education;

WHEREAS, close to one-third of Oakland's high school students drop out of school before they can earn a diploma, and

WHEREAS, securing a GED is a necessity for earning a living wage in the Bay Area, and

WHEREAS, local community colleges are not currently offering GED courses, and access to GED programs in neighboring communities is limited and more costly for many of these adult students), and

WHEREAS, having parents and young adults well-prepared to successfully participate in our local workforce fosters a strong and vibrant local economy, and

WHEREAS, adult education also offers crucial courses for health and social support for many Oakland seniors; and

WHEREAS, adult education programs are currently funded by the state separately from K-12 education and have not affected that funding; and

WHEREAS, the location of these programs at many dozens of sites throughout the city is an integral part of the communities served;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: that the members of the Oakland City Council oppose the loss of Adult Education programs in our local communities, and be it FURTHER RESOLVED: that the Council encourages the State Administrator, the Oakland Public School Board, and teachers union to seek and implement alternatives that will preserve Adult Education Programs throughout the city; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: that the City Council will place this item on our Joint Education Partnership Committee and play an active role in meeting with the parties concerned and state officials to develop a fair resolution.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, MAR 1 5 2005 , 20_____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- CHANG, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, MER, QUAN, WINN and PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE -5

NOES- Ø ABSENT- **BROOKS, REID ~ 2** ABSTENTION- Ø

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