


CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE SHENG THAO

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CALIFORNIA STATE SENATE BILL 878 (SKINNER), WHICH WOULD ESTABLISH A STATE-FUNDED PROGRAM TO ENSURE THAT EVERY TK-12 PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENT IN CALIFORNIA IS PROVIDED FREE TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM SCHOOL EVERYDAY

WHEREAS, a robust educational system is the bedrock of a healthy capitalist democracy by empowering community members, consumers, citizens, and voters to make informed decisions and more readily advocate for their own best interests; and

WHEREAS, school attendance is a necessary component of a robust educational system, though not the only component of such a system; and

WHEREAS, research conducted by the California Department of Education covering 2017-2019 showed lack of transportation to and from school was one of the most common reasons students in California missed school, with black students having a much higher rate of unexcused absences from school than their white peers; and

WHEREAS, several studies have also shown that students who were guaranteed transportation to and from school graduated more frequently than students who were not guaranteed transportation to and from school; and

WHEREAS, many school districts in California do not have school buses, and parents must drive children to school, or children must take public transportation or walk; and

WHEREAS, requiring children and families to navigate their own transportation to and from school represents a potential barrier to education, especially for families with low income or two working parents; and

WHEREAS, California State Senate Bill 878 (Skinner), called the “Road to Success”, would establish a state-funded program to ensure that every TK-12 public school student in California be provided transportation to and from their neighborhood school every day; and

WHEREAS, the passage of SB 878 would allow school districts to launch or expand their own public school transportation systems funded by the state or partner with public transit agencies to get students to and from school; and

WHEREAS, by providing children and families with guaranteed transportation to and from school, SB 878 would likely decrease absences from school and increase graduation rates, which could yield other societal benefits; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby endorses SB 878 (Skinner) and urges the California State Legislature and Governor Gavin Newsom to support its enactment into law.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FIFE, GALLO, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, TAYLOR, THAO AND
PRESIDENT FORTUNATO BAS

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: _____
ASHA REED
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California