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Approved as to Form and Legality


City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER DAN KALB

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 918 (WIENER) THAT WOULD CREATE THE OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH, SET ITS GOALS TO PREVENT AND END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA, AND ESTABLISH \$60 MILLION IN GRANTS ADMINISTERED BY THE OFFICE

WHEREAS, the prevalence of runaways and homelessness among youths is staggering, and studies suggest that between 1.6 and 2.8 million youth up to 24 years of age in the United States experience homelessness every year, a disproportionate number of which are gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender; and

WHEREAS, thirty-one percent of all young people experiencing homelessness in the United States live in California, yet two-thirds of the state's counties lack basic services for young people experiencing homelessness, including shelter, mental and behavioral services, family maintenance and strengthening, and substance abuse treatment programs; and

WHEREAS, in 2017 there were 15,458 unaccompanied homeless youth in California without a safe place to call home, including youth ages 12 to 24 living in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, on the street, or in other places not intended for human habitation; and

WHEREAS, solving youth homelessness is a critical part of ending California's larger crisis, with one study of chronically homeless adults finding that half of them experienced homelessness as youth; and

WHEREAS, California currently lacks a clear strategy to prevent and end homelessness among young people in the state, with policy and funding scattered across various state agencies and departments; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill (SB) 918 (Wiener) would (1) create the Office of Homeless Youth within the Department of Housing and Community Development and require it to set specific goals to prevent and end youth homelessness in California and to monitor progress toward those goals and (2) establish \$60 million in grants from the cannabis tax and other funds to be administered by the Office of Homeless Youth to

provide social services, including but not limited to rental assistance, transitional housing, drug abuse prevention, behavioral and physical health care, education, and employment assistance; and

WHEREAS, SB 918 is supported by Equality California, California Alliance of Child and Family Services, many other organizations, and various local governments; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council hereby endorses SB 918 and urges the California State Legislature and Governor Jerry Brown to support its enactment into law.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, GUILLÉN, KALB, KAPLAN, AND PRESIDENT REID

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: _____
LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of
the City of Oakland, California