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OAKLAND

DRAFT

2011 SEP -7 AM 10:26 **OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL**

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmembers Brunner and Schaaf

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 10, 2011 AS THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE IN CALIFORNIA

WHEREAS, the women of California won the right to vote after a decade-long effort culminating on October 10, 1911, when a majority of California men voted for political equality and passed the woman suffrage amendment to the state Constitution;

WHEREAS, California was only the sixth state in the nation to approve political equality, passing woman suffrage nine years before the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was ratified;

WHEREAS, the innovative California campaign broke new creative ground in promoting Votes for Women by incorporating the latest in advertising and publicity techniques including electric signs, automobile tours, giant billboards, open-air speeches, leaflets in five languages, colorful city-wide displays and countless other new means of outreach;

WHEREAS, the enfranchisement of California women was ensured by farmers, business and working men in small towns, distant counties and rural areas who responded to the call to "Give your girl an equal chance with your boy" and overcame the opposition in the largest cities;

WHEREAS, the amendment, initially thought to be defeated, triumphed after delayed returns from rural areas swung the election in the women's favor, passing by less than 1% of the vote, 125,037 to 121,450, an average margin of one in every voting precinct in state;

WHEREAS, the victory in California doubled the number of women in the United States who could vote, offered new hope to supporters throughout the nation, and for a time made San Francisco the largest city in the country where women could vote;

WHEREAS, women voters immediately used their new power responsibly and to the credit of the state, and formed civic leagues and associations for the betterment of California which still have influence today;

WHEREAS, this successful, historic effort by courageous and resolute citizens of all races and origins dedicated to the ideal of true democracy is cause for celebration and education; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: that the Oakland City Council hereby recognizes October 10, 2011 as the 100th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage in California and encourages all residents to join in the Suffrage Parade on Sunday, October 2nd at 11:00am at Lake Merritt.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, BRUNNER, DE LA FUENTE , KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, SCHAAF, and PRESIDENT REID

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: _____

LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California