

2011 FEB 17 PM 1:43

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE CITY OF OAKLAND'S OPPOSITION TO GOVERNOR JERRY BROWN'S PROPOSAL TO ELIMINATE THE MEDI-CAL MULTIPURPOSE SENIOR SERVICES PROGRAM FROM THE STATE BUDGET AND URGING THE GOVERNOR AND STATE LEGISLATURE TO MAINTAIN FUNDING OF THE MULTIPURPOSE SENIOR SERVICES PROGRAM

WHEREAS, California has long been a leader in providing innovative solutions for the state's nursing home certified patients who wish to remain in the least restrictive environment of their own home; and

WHEREAS, the Medi-Cal Multipurpose Senior Services (MSSP) program was established in 1983 to address the care needs of the Frail Elderly population by preventing institutionalized care, and now serves 12,600 low-income vulnerable elderly or disabled adults in California, 400 of them in Oakland; and

WHEREAS, Gov. Brown's proposed Fiscal Year 2011-2012 State budget completely eliminates the Multipurpose Senior Services (MSSP) program. The Legislature has historically and wisely seen the cost effectiveness of the program and recognized the severe cost shift to the state's taxpayers and the cost of human suffering; and

WHEREAS, MSSP provides care management, health assessment, and oversight of medications, transportation, and personal assistance, these frail elders require to be enabled to remain in their homes and avoid institutionalization, throughout the State and the City of Oakland, without cost to elders; and

WHEREAS, the services provided by MSSP are less expensive than early and/or inappropriate use of emergency rooms, hospitals, nursing homes and inpatient psychiatric facilities to both seniors and the taxpaying public and, more importantly allow frail elders to maintain their health and home; and

WHEREAS, elimination of funding through Medi-Cal would result in immediate closure of 40 MSSP programs statewide, leaving 12,600 frail elderly without care, and would threaten the ability of the City or Oakland to provide services for *all* residents; and

WHEREAS, hospitals and medical centers throughout the state and in Oakland would quickly see increased hospitalizations and emergency room visits; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 72% of these frail elders will enter nursing facilities within 6 months of MSSP elimination resulting in a cost shift to California taxpayers of \$62,425,944 in year one of elimination; and

WHEREAS, the effect of eliminating these essential services will be to leave the most vulnerable older adults without adequate care, causing an increase in the fatality rate, and; and

WHEREAS, eliminating this program would contribute to the State's unemployment rate and would significantly reduce business for many local vendors and health providers with a reduction of spending in almost 1.5 million dollars per year locally; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the City Council of the City of Oakland declares its opposition to the Governor's proposal to eliminate the Medi-Cal Multipurpose Senior Services program; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council directs the City Administrator to assure that the City's State lobbyist advocates against the Governor's proposal to eliminate the Multipurpose Senior Services program; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council directs the City Clerk to send a copy of this Resolution to the members of the California State Legislature and the Governor.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 2011

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