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# OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

**INTRODUCED BY VICE MAYOR ANNIE CAMPBELL WASHINGTON AND  
COUNCILMEMBER LYNETTE MCELHANEY**

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**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF MEASURE A, THE ALAMEDA COUNTY  
BALLOT MEASURE FOR CHILD CARE AND EARLY EDUCATION ON  
THE JUNE 5, 2018 BALLOT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR  
HIGH QUALITY CHILD CARE AND EARLY EDUCATION SERVICES FOR  
LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME CHILDREN AND FAMILIES IN ALAMEDA  
COUNTY AND TO IMPROVE WAGES FOR CHILD CARE PROVIDERS  
AND EARLY EDUCATORS WHO PROVIDE THESE SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, the children of Alameda County are our future and will provide the leadership, creativity, and productivity to strengthen and sustain the quality of life in our County; and

**WHEREAS**, research shows that a child's brain develops most dramatically during the first five years of life, and this critical period is a window of opportunity to lay the foundation for their education and their future<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, children need access to quality early educators and child care programs to nurture them during this critical period of their development; and

**WHEREAS**, only 44% of Alameda County children enter kindergarten fully ready for school<sup>2</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, only 31% of Alameda County children with working parents have access to a space in a licensed child care or early education setting,<sup>3</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, child care and early education are more expensive than college, with average, full-time infant care costing more per year than tuition at the University of California Berkeley and almost three times the annual cost of California State East Bay<sup>4</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the growing homeless population in Alameda County includes hundreds of children and their families who cannot get access to quality child care and early education services; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 75% of Alameda County child care providers and early educators worry about paying monthly bills, and 54% worry about putting food on the table, as early educators' pay has not kept up with the rising cost of living in the Bay Area<sup>5</sup>; and

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<sup>1</sup> Harvard Center for the Developing Child  
<sup>2</sup> 2015 School Readiness Report by Applied Survey Research.  
<sup>3</sup> The California Child Care Resource and Referral Network 2015 Child Care Portfolio  
<sup>4</sup> 2015 Child Care Portfolio Report, UC Berkeley and CSU East Bay  
<sup>5</sup> 2016 Center for the Study of Child Care Employment Report

**WHEREAS**, low compensation disproportionately affects low-income women, as early educators are almost exclusively female, and are more commonly older women, women of color, recent immigrants, and first-generation college students and mothers; and;

**WHEREAS**, low compensation of early educators drives turnover and hampers the ability to attract and retain skilled educators, which in turn undermines stable, continuous relationships necessary for positive child development; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2016-17, the State of California only reimbursed providers on average less than 70% of the true cost of providing high-quality preschool for 3 and 4-year-olds, per child per year<sup>6</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, investing in high quality early education yields a high return on investment of up to 13%, or \$8.2 billion over 10 years for the new local investment proposed herein<sup>7</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the measure will provide high quality child care and early education services for low and middle-income children and families in Alameda County and improved wages for participating child care providers and early educators so that they can earn at least \$15 per hour with appropriate adjustments for the cost of living;

**WHEREAS**, there are currently 9,214 eligible Oakland children who do not have access to child care or early education; therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** that we, the Oakland City Council, endorse Measure A, the Alameda County Ballot Measure for Child Care and Early Education appearing on the June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 ballot.

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

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<sup>6</sup> 2016 San Francisco Office of Early Care and Education Comprehensive Fiscal Analysis

<sup>7</sup> Nobel Laureate Economist James Heckman