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Approved as to Form and Legality


Oakland City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER NANCY NADEL

RESOLUTION DECLARING JUNE 3, 2006 YOUTH EMPOWERMENT DAY IN THE CITY OF OAKLAND

WHEREAS, in inner-cities across the United States, over 50% of African American males do not finish high school; and

WHEREAS, 72% of these “pushouts” were jobless in their 20’s, and by their mid-thirties, 60% had spent time in prison; and

WHEREAS, these statistics suggest that policies on many levels seem to be pushing our youth out of school and into prison; and

WHEREAS, Education Not Incarceration is a coalition of teachers, parents, students, and concerned community members seeking to reprioritize the way the United States invests in the future away from prisons and toward education inside and outside prisons and other important social services; and

WHEREAS, Education Not Incarceration fulfills its mission by building strategic alliances and mobilizing local, statewide and national grassroots efforts – teach-ins, rallies, public education, community forums, etc. – to challenge spending priorities and to push for solutions that reduce prison budgets by reducing the number of people in prison and re-invest money saved in education and other important social services; and

WHEREAS, Education Not Incarceration has spent the past three years interviewing students, parents, and educators at McClymonds High School, as well as organizational leaders throughout the City of Oakland to discuss strategic ways to address the issue of “pushouts;” and

WHEREAS, on June 3, 2006, from 6 pm to 9 pm at the McClymonds Educational Complex, Education Not Incarceration will launch its “Stop Pushouts” Campaign, a community-driven effort to create learning communities that incorporate supportive programs, rather than policies of expulsion and suspension; and

WHEREAS, the “Stop Pushouts” Campaign, in cooperation with the West Oakland Educational Task Force and the ACLU, will work to redirect funds used for truancy sweeps, policing, and incarcerating youth toward peer-based trainings for educators in creating a positive classroom environment; funding youth and family centers that holistically address the challenges youth face in our community; and

WHEREAS, Education Not Incarceration will work to increase student, parent, and teacher participation in creating educational policies that will cause youth to *want* to stay in school; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED: that Oakland City Council does hereby declare June 3, 2006, Youth Empowerment Day, supporting the campaign to stop “pushouts,” and urges that our citizens and City agencies honor this effort.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 2006

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BRUNNER, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, BROOKS, REID, CHANG, and
PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of
the City of Oakland, California