

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. 77789 C. M. S.

Nancy J. Nadel

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER Nancy J. Nadel

A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE CITY OF OAKLAND'S SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL LEGISLATION TO LIMIT EXCESS WAR PROFITS

WHEREAS, the people of the City of Oakland believe in the U.S. Constitution and are committed to the rule of law, and support U.S. troops in all lawful actions; and

WHEREAS, Excess profit taxes were in place during World Wars I and II and the Korean War, and the reasons are outlined by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in a message to Congress July 1, 1940:

"We are engaged in a great national effort to build up our national defenses to meet any and every potential attack. ... It is our duty to see that the burden is equitably distributed according to ability to pay so that a few do not gain from the sacrifices of the many. I therefore recommend to the Congress the enactment of a steeply graduated excess-profits tax, to be applied to all individuals and all corporate organizations without discrimination," and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Defense is now making contracts for war materiel, and is also making contracts to deal with the "rebuilding" of Iraq after the end of the bombing and military actions; and

WHEREAS, the members of the U.S. Armed Forces are not making excess wages out of this war, but are suffering now, and some will suffer for the rest of their lives, from the actions they are now taking and will take in Iraq; and

WHEREAS, cities have had to bear the burden of increased costs for homeland security without promised help from the federal government, and while the federal government lets contracts for rebuilding Iraq, cities continue to suffer from aging infrastructure due to decreases in federal funding over the years; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Oakland City Council strongly urges our Congress members in the House and Senate to introduce legislation calling for a high percentage tax on all excess profits on every contract dealing with U.S. military action in Iraq and/or the "rebuilding" of Iraq, including renegotiation of all such contracts made to date to include this tax, which sets aside a portion of this funding to go to cities to address the aforementioned homeland security and infrastructure needs; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this Resolution be sent to every California Congress Member, to the U.S. Department of Defense, to Pres. George W. Bush, and the United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan.

MAY 20 2003

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 20__

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, REID, QUAN, WAN AND PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE - 7

Excused QUAN - 1

*Clida Floyd
City Clerk
City of Oakland*