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Oakland City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. 81985 C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmembers Nancy Nadel and Jean Quan

**RESOLUTION HONORING RICHARD AOKI (NOVEMBER 20,
1938 - MARCH 15, 2009) FOR OVER FORTY YEARS OF CIVIL
RIGHTS ACTIVISM AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

WHEREAS, Richard Aoki dedicated his life to his beliefs and the struggle for human rights; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Aoki was born in San Leandro, California in 1938, and at age four was interned with his family at the Topaz War Relocation Center in Utah until the end of WWII; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Aoki and his family moved to West Oakland in 1945 and Mr. Aoki served in the U.S. Army for eight years before attending Merritt College; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Aoki was one of the first members of the Black Panther Party; and the only Asian American member to attain a formal leadership position; and

WHEREAS, in 1969, Aoki was one of the leaders of the Third World Liberation Front at the University of California, Berkeley, and led a strike that resulted in the creation of UC Berkeley's ethnic studies department; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Aoki graduated from UC Berkeley with a Bachelors degree in Sociology in 1968 and a Master of Social Work degree in 1970; and.

WHEREAS, for 25 years, Mr. Aoki served as a counselor, instructor and administrator in the Peralta College system; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Aoki passed away on March 15, 2009; and

WHEREAS, many people in Oakland, including his friends, colleagues and family will remember Mr. Aoki for the personal impact he made on their lives and the social impact he made on community movements of people of all colors; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the Oakland City Council does hereby recognize Mr. Richard Aoki as a dedicated political activist and honor his over forty years of community service

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, MAY 19 2009, 2009

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - ~~BROOKS~~, DE LA FUENTE, KAPLAN, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, ~~QUAN, REID~~ AND PRESIDENT BRUNNER - 5


NOES - 0

ABSENT - 0

ABSTENTION - 0

Excused - Quan, Reid, Brooks - 3

ATTEST:



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