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OAKLAND

Approved as to Form and Legality

**OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL**

**DRAFT**  
City Attorney

2012 JAN 26 PM 4:59

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmember Jane Brunner

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**Resolution Recognizing And Commending Jo-Ellen Spencer And Arlyce Currie On The Occasion Of Their Retirement For Their Work At BANANAS And Their Service To Parents And Child Care Providers Of Oakland**

**WHEREAS**, BANANAS is a dynamic community agency which has served Oakland and Northern Alameda County families for 39 years, and

**WHEREAS**, Jo-Ellen and Arlyce helped found BANANAS as an all volunteer organization of mothers who were "going bananas" with child care issues in 1973, and

**WHEREAS**, under the leadership of Betty Cohen, Arlyce Currie, Jo-Ellen Spencer and Blanca Nunez, BANANAS has maintained an outstanding local, state and national reputation for the past 39 years, and

**WHEREAS**, Arlyce and Jo-Ellen have empowered community women, including many immigrant women, by hiring women to work at BANANAS who reflect the diverse community BANANAS serves, and providing employment development services to immigrants who seek work as caregivers, and

**WHEREAS**, BANANAS has been the forerunner in developing community support for child care and parenting services for families from all backgrounds and all income levels.

**WHEREAS**, Arlyce worked to create the Child Care Law Center, a non-profit law firm specializing in child care issues, and Trustline, a central statewide background check of the child abuse registry, and

**WHEREAS**, Arlyce participated in many Boards and Commissions, such as the Governor's Advisory Commission, created under the young governor Jerry Brown that laid the foundation for the structure and funding of statewide child care system, the boards of the California Child Care Resource & Referral Network, Child Care Law Center, NACCRRRA, Alameda County Planning Council and First 5 Advisory and Parent Voices, and

**WHEREAS**, Jo-Ellen became involved in early education policy development as a union organizer for the Oakland American Federation of Teachers and the Children's Centers Employees Union, OUSD and continued her involvement with Oakland's early childhood programs, serving on three Oakland Unified School District Child Care Committees throughout the 1980's, and

**WHEREAS**, Jo-Ellen worked with Council Member Jane Brunner and the Assistant City Manager to create the Head Start Advisory Panel/Board Board in 2002, and Jo-Ellen has been a member or the Chair of the Board since then, and

**WHEREAS**, Jo-Ellen's worked with the City of Oakland as the Chair of the Mayor's Task Force on Children and Youth in 1980 which was created in the aftermath of the passage of Prop 13. In 1982 the City endorsed BANANAS' Oakland Community Child Care Impact Committee, a pioneering effort to encourage employer supported child care in Oakland

**WHEREAS**, Jo-Ellen has served on The Oakland Child Care Advisory Committee, the City Child Care Commission, and The Commission on Aging, Health & Human Services, now therefore be it,

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Oakland City Council does hereby recognize and commend Jo-Ellen Spencer and Arlyce Currie on the occasion of their retirement for their work at BANANAS and their service to parents and child care providers of Oakland.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

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

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
LaTonda Simmons  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council  
of the City of Oakland, California