



OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 78060 = C.M. § 93 SEP -4 AM 10:35

INTRODUCED BY VICE MAYOR NANCY NADEL AND COUNCILMEMBER DANNY WAN

A RESOLUTION OF THE OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL DECLARING ITS OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION 54, THE INITIATIVE /CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROHIBITING THE COLLECTION AND USE OF INFORMATION ABOUT RACE, ETHNICITY, COLOR OR NATIONAL ORIGIN BY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES, AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS

WHEREAS, the Classification by Race, Ethnicity, Color or National Origin Initiative/Constitutional Amendment, known as Proposition 54, would prohibit state agencies and local governments from collecting racial data that make it possible to identify, track, monitor, or prove discrimination and would render public agencies powerless to enforce anti-discrimination laws by prohibiting public agencies from collecting information about race and ethnicity; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 54 will deny California educators, health care professionals, and policy makers demographic information necessary to: (1) identify and measure educational opportunities and academic achievement; (2) create focused health prevention programs for communities experiencing differences in treatment, risk behaviors, and response to preventative remedies; (3) eliminate racial profiling and curb ethnic and race-based hate crimes; (4) ensure accessibility to public contracting opportunities; and (5) make policy reforms that are in the best interests of the communities they are designed to serve; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 54 will have a detrimental impact on the City of Oakland as it will inhibit the City's efforts to provide and develop programs and services because the City of Oakland's population is one of the most ethnically diverse in the United States of America and the City of Oakland's population of women and people of color are disproportionately at or near the federal poverty level while African American and Latino youths experience alarmingly high teenage pregnancy and high school dropout rates and represent a disproportionate segment of the incarcerated population; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 54 will create irresponsible and anachronistic public policy that dismisses the social, economic, and cultural differences that distinguish racial and ethnic groups; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Oakland City Council supports the appropriate collection and use of racial data by state and other public entities to promote and ensure equal opportunities for all people; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Oakland City Council opposes Proposition 54, the Initiative/Constitutional Amendment prohibiting state and local governments, public universities, and school districts from collecting or using information about race, ethnicity, color or national origin.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, SEP 16 2003 2003

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, QUAN, REID, WAN, ~~W~~ -7
EXCUSED - PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE -1
NOES - 0
ABSENT - 0
ABSTENTION - 0

ATTEST:



CEDA FLOYD
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California