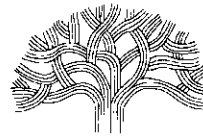


DRAFT

CITY OF OAKLAND



CITY HALL • 1 FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA • OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612

NANCY J. NADEL
Councilmember
District # 3

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March 15, 2007
Rules and Legislation Committee
Oakland, CA

Dear Chairperson De La Fuente, and Members of the Rules and Legislation Committee:

On January 10, 2007, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger released his state budget which proposes a \$324.4 million cut for 2007-2008 and a projected \$429 million cut for 2008-2009 for families on CalWORKs, the state's version of the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program.

The State Department of Social Services projects that 36,000 children in California would stand to lose cash assistance benefits effective July 1, 2007, if the Governor's proposed budget is approved. The Alameda County's Department of Social Services reports that there are an estimated 18,375 families currently receiving CalWORKs cash assistance in Alameda County. In the City of Oakland, the 2000 U.S. Census reports that 19.4 percent (76,489) of the population lives in poverty and 28.2 percent (27,558) are children under the age of 18.

The Governor's proposed 2007-2008 CalWORKs budget cuts are inconsistent with the federal goals of the CalWORKs program, which is to reduce child poverty and increase family self-sufficiency. If approved, the Governor's proposed CalWORKs cuts would include the termination of CalWORKs cash assistance for some child-only cases, the elimination of the post 5-year safety net for children when the parent is not employed, and full family sanctions – all of which would cause undo suffering among Oakland's low-income children and the families who care for them.

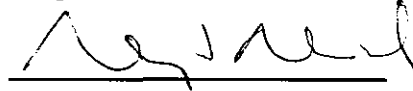
Therefore, I ask that the City adopt the following actions:

- Oppose the Governor's proposed cuts in the 2007-2008 State Budget of \$324.4 million in CalWORKs cash assistance benefits to low-income families.
- Direct the City Administrator and the City's legislative lobbyist to advocate for the above position to Governor Schwarzenegger and the State Legislature.

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I should note that when this item was being scheduled by the Rules and Legislation Committee, the Committee requested information regarding this issue from the City's legislative lobbyist, Townsend Public Affairs, Inc. My office is in the process of obtaining the requested information and will include it in the Supplemental Report.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy J. Nadel
City Councilmember, District 3

Prepared by:
Estelle Clemmons
Fund Development Specialist
Policy and Planning Unit

Marisa Arrona
Policy Analyst for
Councilmember Nancy J. Nadel

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Approved as to Form and Legality

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION No. _____ C.M.S.
07 MAR - 1 11 11:55

City Attorney

**RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE GOVERNOR'S PROPOSED CUTS IN THE
2007-2008 STATE BUDGET OF \$324.4 MILLION IN CALWORKS CASH
ASSISTANCE BENEFITS TO LOW-INCOME FAMILIES**

WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposed State Budget for 2007-2008 includes a \$324.4 million cut and a projected \$426 million cut for 2008-2009 for families on CalWORKs, the state's version of the federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program; and

WHEREAS, the goal of the CalWORKs program is to reduce child poverty and increase family self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's proposed 2007-2008 budget clearly does not support the goal of reducing child poverty and increasing family self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, in the City of Oakland, the 2000 U.S. Census reports that 19.4 percent (76,489) of the population lives in poverty and 28.2 percent (27,558) are children under the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, the State Department of Social Services projects that 36,000 of the 90,000 children whose families now receive CalWORKs benefits would lose cash assistance on July 1, 2007 if the Governor's proposed budget is approved; and

WHEREAS, this change in the CalWORKs program would cause undo suffering among low-income children and the families who care for them; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the City of Oakland opposes the Governor's proposed cuts in the 2007-2008 State Budget of \$324.4 million in CalWORKs cash assistance, which includes the termination of CalWORKs cash assistance for some child-only cases, the elimination of the post 5-year safety net for children when the parent is not employed, and full family sanctions; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Council hereby directs the City Administrator and the City's legislative lobbyist to advocate for the above position to Governor Schwarzenegger and the State Legislature.

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