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City Attorney's Office

## OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. 85 425 C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT LYNETTE MCELHANEY

**RESOLUTION HONORING JAHAHARA AMEN-RA  
ALKEBULAN-MA'AT FOR HIS REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENTS  
AS A COMMUNITY ORGANIZER, PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVIST,  
AND GREEN ENERGY ADVOCATE AND DEVELOPER IN  
OAKLAND AND BEYOND**

**WHEREAS**, Jahahara Amen-RA Alkebulan-Ma'at has been a resident of Oakland for 20 years, moving to Oakland from Chicago with his wife Marguerite; and

**WHEREAS**, Jahahara began his career in Chicago working as a community organizer on behalf of new housing, improved healthcare and voting rights; and

**WHEREAS**, in Alameda County, Jahahara served as a representative for SEIU Local 715 and 250, where he fought for thousands of workers, as well as the passage of Measure E, which saved Alameda County hospitals such as Highland and Fairmont; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2000, Jahahara and his family briefly moved to New York where he successfully advocated for campaigns that provided thousands of construction apprenticeships for Black, Brown and female public housing residents; and

**WHEREAS**, upon returning to Oakland in 2002, Jahahara recruited young people from Oakland and other Bay Area cities into African Youth Exchange, which allowed for Bay Area youth to travel to Africa and become involved in campaigns centered around poverty and health in Africa and the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, for the last six years, Jahahara has worked to grow and nurture GRID Alternatives, a small solar power non-profit in Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, GRID Alternatives installs over a thousand solar panel systems each year in the United States and Nicaragua; GRID Alternatives specifically serves approximately 200 families in Oakland and almost 150 families in Richmond and San Francisco; and

**WHEREAS**, the families served by GRID Alternatives are in low-income communities where pollution is a major health crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, solar energy is a benefit to both the environment and the economy; the systems installed by GRID Alternatives have a lifetime saving of \$25,000 as well as a lifetime saving of 85 tons of CO2, which is the equivalent of planting 2,000 trees, allowing for cleaner air and money saved to be spent more effectively elsewhere; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That Oakland City Council recognizes Jahahara Amen-RA Alkebulan-Ma'at for his dedication to environmentalism and public health, as well as his contributions to the renewable energy movement and families in Oakland and the greater Bay Area.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

MAR 03 2015

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

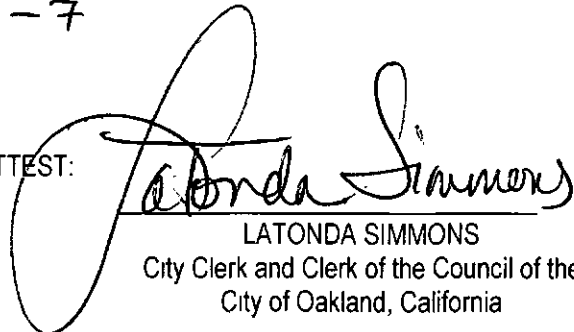
AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL-WASHINGTON, ~~COO~~, GUILLEN, KALB, KAPLAN, REID AND  
PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY - 7

NOES - 0

ABSENT - Gallo - 1

ABSTENTION - 0

ATTEST:



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