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Approved as to Form and Legality


City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT LYNETTE GIBSON MCELHANEY, VICE
MAYOR ANNIE CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, AND COUNCILMEMBER GUILLÉN

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ALL EFFORTS BY THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR TO INCREASE SSP PAYMENTS TO MEET OR EXCEED THE FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL FOR ELDERLY, BLIND OR DISABLED INDIVIDUALS

WHEREAS, the State Supplementary Payment (SSP) program assists blind, disabled, and elderly individuals and supplements the federal Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program; and

WHEREAS, State Supplemental Payment amounts are adjusted based on living arrangement, marital status, status as a minor, and other factors; and

WHEREAS, the current State Supplemental Payment amount has not kept pace with the increased cost of living, including such items as housing, food, health care, and transportation; and

WHEREAS, the State Supplemental Payment amounts were reduced substantially during and following the Great Recession from \$233 per month to \$156 per month for individuals – the minimum allowed by federal law; and

WHEREAS, the pre-recession maximum SSI/SSP grant amount for individuals was at 100% of the federal poverty level and the current maximum SSI/SSP grant amount is at 90.6% of the federal poverty level; and

WHEREAS, the cost of living adjustment (COLA) for the State Supplemental Payment (SSP) has not been provided since the Fiscal Year 2009-10 State Budget; and

WHEREAS, SSI/SSP recipients are not eligible for CalFresh (food stamps) in California; and

WHEREAS, many individuals who depend on this grant as a source of income cannot meet their basic needs and are forced to make painful decisions regarding paying rent and utilities, purchasing food, or medical supplies not covered by health insurance; and

WHEREAS, as of January 2016, there were 22,674 individuals in the City of Oakland depending on the State Supplemental Payment program which is equivalent to almost one in five residents; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That City of Oakland hereby includes its support of the State of California Legislators and Governor to increase the State Supplementary Payment amounts to meet or exceed the federal poverty level to elderly, blind, and/or disabled individuals to be readjusted and increased annually.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLÉN, KALB, KAPLAN, REID AND
PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY

NOES –

ABSENT –

ABSTENTION –

ATTEST: _____
LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the
City of Oakland, California