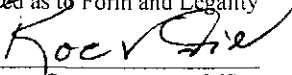


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City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBERS KALB & GIBSON MCELHANEY

Resolution in Support of State Assembly Bill (AB) 1585 (Alejo) that Would Provide for Someone Who has been Convicted of Prostitution or Solicitation with the Ability to Have that Conviction Set Aside if that Person can Establish, by Clear and Convincing Evidence, that the Conviction was the Result of Being a Victim of Human Trafficking; and Makes Appropriate Amendments and Additions to the California Family and Penal Codes.

WHEREAS, due to our proximity to international borders, human trafficking is a serious problem in California with an estimated 15,000-17,000 men, women and children trafficked into the United States every year; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking and sexual exploitation cause lasting psychological, physical, and financial harm to their victims; and

WHEREAS, some of the current laws prohibiting prostitution are unfair in that they do not adequately protect victims of human trafficking; and

WHEREAS, victims who are forced to do sexual acts, many of them minors or immigrants, struggle to access resources to free themselves and they face even greater challenges if they have a criminal record from the actions they were forced to do; and

WHEREAS, prostitutes are frequently arrested, charged, and sentenced with little or no investigation into their backgrounds, thereby overlooking the reality that some of them are victims of human trafficking and thus are being forced to do the sexual acts they are arrested for; and

WHEREAS, the stigma of prostitution-related charges can inhibit the ability of those charged to transition into and lead healthy, productive lifestyles; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 1585, introduced by Assemblymember Luis Alejo on February 3, 2014 and co-authored by Assemblymember Nancy Skinner, would allow a prostitution conviction to be dismissed or set aside for victims of human trafficking, and prohibit dissemination of the record to employers and licensing and certification entities, thereby preventing victims of trafficking from being treated as criminals and giving them a better chance of improving their lives; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Oakland City Council endorses AB 1585; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be transmitted to Assembly Members Luis Alejo, Rob Bonta, Nancy Skinner, and Toni Atkins, and to Senators Loni Hancock and Kevin de Leon, and to Governor Jerry Brown.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, KAPLAN, REID,
SCHAAF AND PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST: _____

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