FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

2021 MAR 18 PM 4: 00

Approved As To Form And Legality

City Attorney's Office

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 88540 C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE SHENG THAO

RESOLUTION URGING THE CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR GAVIN NEWSOM TO REPEAL ASSEMBLY BILL 1838 TO ALLOW LOCAL AGENCIES TO TAX SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGES TO IMPROVE PUBLIC HEALTH

WHEREAS, even before the COVID pandemic we were already facing a public health crisis in Oakland and across the country; and

WHEREAS, the United States is experiencing an obesity epidemic, which puts Americans at risk of developing chronic diseases such as diabetes or hypertension; and

WHEREAS, the costs for diabetes-related healthcare in Alameda County alone were estimated at \$560 million dollars in 2010; and

WHEREAS, soft drinks and other sugary drinks are the number one source of added sugar in the American diet, they account for half of all consumed sugar, but have no nutritional value and there is growing scientific evidence that excess dietary sugar can lead to severe negative health effects; and

WHEREAS, excess consumption of sugar has been linked to diabetes, hypertension, cancer, gout, poor dental health, leptin resistance, insulin resistance, liver disease, and other negative health outcomes; and

WHEREAS, Oakland voters approved Measure HH by 61% in 2016, imposing a one cent per ounce general tax on the distribution of sugar-sweetened beverages such as soda, sports drinks, energy drinks, while exempting milk, juice, baby formula, and others; and

WHEREAS, Measure HH raises roughly \$2 million in general tax revenue each year that is allocated to community non-profit organizations and other public agencies to prevent and mitigate the negative health impacts of consuming sugar-sweetened beverages; and

WHEREAS, on June 28, 2018 Governor Jerry Brown approved Assembly Bill No. 1838, which prohibits a local agency, as defined by Section 6252 of the California Government Code, from taxing certain groceries including sugar-sweetened beverages such as soft drinks; and

WHEREAS, all local agencies should have the power to tax sugar-sweetened beverages to discourage consumption and to generate revenue to combat the negative health impacts of sugar-sweetened beverages; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council hereby urges the California Legislature and Governor Gavin Newsom to repeal Assembly Bill No. 1838 and allow all local agencies to tax sugar-sweetened beverages.

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IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

MAR 1 6 2021

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - FIFE, GALLO, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, TAYLOR, THAO AND PRESIDENT FORTUNATO BAS

NOES - D

ABSENT – 🎾

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

ASHA REED
Acting City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the City of Oakland, California