



# OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

04 MAR 11 PM 5:09 RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_ C. M. S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBERS Dannv Wan & Jean Quan

A RESOLUTION HONORING IMMIGRANT WOMEN ON THE OCCASION OF THE SECOND NATIONAL IMMIGRANT WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP GATHERING AND DECLARING FRIDAY, MARCH 26 AS IMMIGRANT WOMEN'S DAY IN THE CITY OF OAKLAND

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland recognizes the contributions of immigrant women workers to our economy, communities and culture; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004, Asian Immigrant Women Advocates is convening the Second National Immigrant Women's Leadership Gathering under the theme of "*Success, Power, and Solidarity: Immigrant Women Leading Change*"; and

**WHEREAS**, the Second National Immigrant Women's Leadership Gathering will bring Asian, Arab, Latin American and Caribbean immigrant women leaders and staff from ten organizations across the US. together to share their success stories of grassroots empowerment and collective actions that resulted in institutional changes in their workplace and community; and

**WHEREAS**, a disproportionate number of immigrant workers rely on low-wage jobs, often working in deplorable conditions that fail to provide living wages, healthcare, other benefits, or the basic essentials of life; yet contrary to popular belief, they contribute millions of dollars more in taxes than they receive in services; and

**WHEREAS**, immigrant women workers suffering from poor working conditions have historically been victims of extreme exploitation; a tragic example of which was on March 25, 1911, when 148 workers, mostly immigrant women and young girls working in sweatshop conditions, lost their lives in the infamous Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire that burned the factory down, but ignited the labor movement in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, immigrant women and youth continue to struggle for basic occupational health and safety and respect for their work in low-wage industries; and

**WHEREAS**, immigrant women's leadership has historically been undervalued yet essential to institutional change, and the Second National Immigrant Women's Leadership Gathering will focus attention on the issues facing low-income immigrant women and their communities and call attention to the need for developing grassroots women's leadership to work toward improving living and working conditions for these vulnerable community members; and

**WHEREAS**, the low-income immigrant women whose leadership and inspiration as role models for dignity and achievements in our communities are not otherwise recognized during National Women's Month; and

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MAR 16 2004

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland has a large immigrant community that benefits from the contributions of immigrant women workers actively seeking change by demanding justice and respect for their work and communities; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** that the Oakland City Council does hereby honor Immigrant Women on the occasion of the second National Immigrant Women's Leadership Gathering and does proclaim Friday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2004 as Immigrant Women's Day in Oakland, and encourages Oakland residents to join in commemorating their accomplishments.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, \_\_\_\_\_, 2004

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

AYES- BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, QUAN, REID, WAN AND PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION-

ATTEST:

CEDA FLOYD  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council  
of the City of Oakland, California

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**ORA/COUNCIL**  
**MAR 16 2004**