

CITY OF OAKLAND

BILL ANALYSIS

Bill Number: HR 4812

Bill Author: U.S. Representative George Miller (D-CA)

DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

Contact: Clara Garzon **Department: City Council Office – District 6 Telephone:** 238-3971 FAX # 238-6910

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RECOMMENDED POSITION: SUPPORT

Summary of the Bill:

The Local Jobs For America Act (House Resolution No. 4812) is the first federal jobs proposal to provide cities and towns, not just states, fiscal assistance to save and create jobs in their local communities this year. It establishes that it will create a million public and private jobs in local communities this year. HR4812 is an important step towards goals which local municipalities share, such as, keeping police officers, firefighters, and teachers on the jobs, restoring critical services that have been cut, and creating new jobs that meet local needs. It also importantly recognizes that, in addition to the actions local leaders are taking to steer their communities through recession, local governments need help, and that public sector employees also contribute valuable services that are indispensable to our community and our recovery. Local Municipalities must do everything to help create jobs for those who are struggling through these most difficult economic times.

The Local Jobs For America Act is an efficient response that provides just the kind of help our cities need now. Through a funding formula based on the Community Development Block Grant program, the bill would direct \$75 billion to cities, towns and counties to save municipal jobs and prevent layoffs. Of the \$75 billion, \$52.5 billion would go directly to communities with at least 50,000 residents, and \$22.5 billion would go directly to states to distribute to communities with fewer than 50,000 residents.

Positive Factors for Oakland:

- Federal aid will be help if the City of Oakland is to avoid public service worker layoffs including fire an police, teachers and other important city workers or significant increases in taxes to pay the salaries of these
- If this bill is enacted, it will help ensure that our city can continue to provide services essential to families in our community.

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- This bill will also direct \$75 billion to cities and towns, not just states, fiscal assistance to save and create jobs in local communities; it will help create one million public and private jobs in local communities this year, including in the City of Oakland.
- HR4812 would also help prevent state and local tax increases, while helping governments avoid making the choice between eliminating services and raising taxes.
- HR4812 would also help stimulate local businesses and create more jobs in the local economy.

Negative Factors for Oakland: None known at this time.

PLEASE RATE THE EFFECT OF THIS MEASURE ON THE CITY OF OAKLAND:

- **Critical** (top priority for City lobbyist, city position required ASAP)
- <u>x</u> Very Important (priority for City lobbyist, city position necessary)
- **Somewhat Important** (City position desirable if time and resources are available)
- Minimal or _____ None (do not review with City Council, position not required)

Known support:

City of Oakland Mayor Ronald V. Dellums The National League of Cities, The U.S. Conference of Mayors, The National Association of Counties, among others.

Known Opposition:

None known at this time.

Attach bill text and state/federal legislative committee analysis, if available.

Respectfully Submitted,

Clara Garzon Legislative Analyst, City Council

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