

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL


City Attorney

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

RESOLUTION No. 79888 C.M.S.2006 MAY 1 Introduced by Councilmember Jean Quan

**RESOLUTION DECLARING THE CITY OF OAKLAND'S SUPPORT
FOR PROPOSITION 81 - THE CALIFORNIA READING AND
LITERACY IMPROVEMENT AND PUBLIC LIBRARY
CONSTRUCTION AND RENOVATION BOND ACT OF 2006**

WHEREAS, many of our friends and neighbors suffer silently from functional illiteracy. They are unable to read and perform daily life skills including paying bills, understanding instructions on medicine bottles, or read safety manuals; and

WHEREAS, illiteracy often passes from one generation to the next, not limited by age, race, gender or geography. Over three million native English-speaking Californians are functionally illiterate; and

WHEREAS, skyrocketing library use is causing our already under-funded library system to deteriorate rapidly. A recent study by the California State Library identified more than 500 public library building projects needed statewide, over the next five years ; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 81 combines a 65% state match with 35% locally generated funds to provide over \$900 million for renovating or building libraries, freeing local funds for much needed services for children, seniors, families and businesses; and

WHEREAS, Prop. 81 will mean more homework centers for students, college and career centers, expanded children's reading programs, greater access for seniors and people with disabilities, updated technology and increased access to computers and the Internet, increased programs to fight illiteracy and new partnerships between libraries and schools; and

WHEREAS, the Oakland Public Library itself is in need of upgrades and new facilities – the average age of the buildings being 40 years old- and is now in the final stages of preparing a Master Facilities Plan for the Main Library and its 15 branches; and

WHEREAS, Oakland was itself a beneficiary of Proposition 14, the last state library construction bond, enabling it to build a new joint OUSD-Public Library in East Oakland at 81st Avenue and Rudsdale., now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the City Council declares its support for Proposition 81 - the California Reading and Literacy Improvement and Public Library Construction and Renovation Bond Act of 2006.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, MAY 16 2006, 20

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, KERNIGHAN, NADEL, QUAN, REID, and PRESIDENT DE LA FUENTE - 8

NOES - 0

ABSENT - 0

ABSTENTION - 0

ATTEST. LaTonda Simmons
LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California