

TO: Oakland City Council
FROM: Office of Council President De La Fuente
DATE: May 20, 2004
RE: **RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING SUPPORT FOR INITIATIVES TO PREVENT, REDUCE, AND TREAT ASTHMA AMONG OAKLAND'S CHILDREN, SPECIFICALLY STATE ASSEMBLY BILL 2367 AUTHORED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN WILMA CHAN.**

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTION

If passed by the City Council, this Resolution would accomplish two goals:

(1) officially express the City Councils' concern about the increase of asthma cases among the children of Oakland, recently reported by The Oakland Tribune, the American Lung Association of the East Bay, and the Oakland/Berkeley Asthma Coalition (This Coalition includes the Alameda County Department of Public Health) and

(2) officially express support for Assembly Bill 2367 introduced by Assemblywoman Wilma Chan to curb the asthma attacks of children in our public schools by training teachers to recognize the signs and symptoms of asthma.

AB 2367 would also require schools to keep on file information about a student's asthma if the parents or guardians of that child voluntarily provide the information to the school.

FISCAL IMPACTS

There would be no impact to the City of Oakland's budget.

Supporters of A.B. 2367 believe urban public schools, such as those in the Oakland Unified School District, would benefit financially. If fewer children suffer from asthma attacks, fewer students would miss school days. If fewer students miss school days, their schools would qualify for additional funding.

The staff of the Assembly Appropriations Committee initially estimated costs to be \$35 million for the State. Assemblywoman Chan and the American Lung Association dispute those costs, saying they are based on the incorrect assumption the state would need to develop a new stand-alone training program and that training will comprise half of one day. Assemblywoman Chan and the American Lung Association say the costs will be much lower because school districts could simply insert training modules already designed by the American Lung Association into training sessions already scheduled for teachers on other topics.

ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL

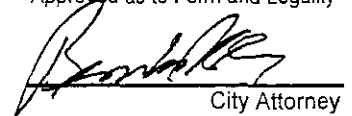
We request that the full City Council approve this Resolution on Tuesday, June 15, 2004.

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**RULES & LEGISLATION
CMTE JUN 10 2004**

FILED
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
OAKLAND

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Approved as to Form and Legality


City Attorney

2004 MAY 27 PM 12:15 RESOLUTION NO. _____ C. M. S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER PRESIDENT IGNACIO DE LA FUENTE

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING SUPPORT FOR INITIATIVES TO PREVENT, REDUCE, AND TREAT ASTHMA AMONG OAKLAND'S CHILDREN, SPECIFICALLY STATE ASSEMBLY BILL 2367 AUTHORED BY ASSEMBLYWOMAN WILMA CHAN

WHEREAS, A person's ability to breathe fresh air is the foundation for a healthy life;

WHEREAS, Asthma is a chronic disease that impairs a person's ability to breathe by swelling and constricting one's airway;

WHEREAS, Children are most susceptible to asthma attacks because their airways and lungs are still growing;

WHEREAS, Children living in Oakland seek emergency care for their asthma attacks at a rate four times higher than do children in California as a whole, according to data produced by the California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development and analyzed by the Oakland/Berkeley Asthma Coalition;

WHEREAS, There are many more children suffering from asthma in Oakland than those who seek emergency hospital care;

WHEREAS, Children suffering from asthma attacks live in every neighborhood in Oakland, including North, East, West, and Downtown Oakland;

WHEREAS, When children suffer from asthma attacks they miss school, thereby hindering their ability to learn and reducing the amount of funding the state provides to those schools;

WHEREAS, Asthma can be prevented by protecting our environment, specifically by reducing outdoor and indoor air pollution;

WHEREAS, Although there is no cure for asthma, children and their caregivers can manage the disease with sufficient information on its symptoms and treatments combined with access to affordable and quality health care;

WHEREAS, The City of Oakland should encourage government agencies to partner with nonprofit organizations and the business community to prevent, reduce, and treat asthma among Oakland's children;

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 2367 introduced by Assembly Member Wilma Chan would be a positive step toward helping Oakland's children to manage their asthma attacks by training teachers in public schools to recognize signs and symptoms of this disease; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, the City Council of the City of Oakland does hereby express its support for Assembly Bill 2367 and other initiatives likely to be effective in preventing, reducing, and / or treating asthma among Oakland's children.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES- BROOKS, BRUNNER, CHANG, NADEL, REID, QUAN, 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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RULES & LEGISLATION
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