OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK OAKLAND

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Approved as to Form and Legality

City Attorney's Office

## OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

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Resolution No.	C.M.S.

## INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBERS KALB, KAPLAN AND GALLO

## RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT OBAMA TO PROCLAIM MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup> AS CESAR CHAVEZ NATIONAL DAY OF SERVICE

**WHEREAS**, Cesar Chavez was an American farm worker, labor leader and civil rights activist, who, with Dolores Huerta, co-founded the National Farm Workers Association; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez employed nonviolent means to bring attention to the plight of farm workers, and as a labor leader, led marches, called for boycotts and went on several hunger strikes and brought national awareness to the dangers of pesticides to workers' health; and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez has been honored in Oakland and in countless communities across the nation because he successfully organized the poorest of the poor, gave hope and pride to generations of farm workers and Latinos, and inspired millions of other Americans from all walks of life who never worked on a farm to work for social justice; and

**WHEREAS**, the Legacy of Cesar Chavez lives on through dozens of National and State recognitions that have been bestowed upon him and his family but also through the ongoing activism of millions of Americans who today continue the work he started; and

WHEREAS, on October 8, 2012, President Obama traveled to the farm worker movement's headquaders in the Tehachapi Mountains at La Paz in Keene, California, and before 7,000 people dedicated the Cesar E. Chavez National Monument located at the National Chavez Center—now the 398<sup>th</sup> unit of the National Park Service and the first honoring a modern-day Latino; and

**WHEREAS,** President Obama once said, "Our world is a better place because Cesar Chavez decided to change it;" and

WHEREAS, a national campaign is now underway asking President Obama to recognize Cesar Chavez by proclaiming his March 31 birthday as a National Day of Service so that all Americans in each of the 50 states can take part in meaningful public service activities in their own communities; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That the City Council of the City of Oakland appeals to President Obama to declare the Cesar Chavez National Day of Service so Americans can honor the legacy of this civil rights and farm labor icon; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City Council asks all Oakland residents to sign the on-line petition for the Cesar Chavez National Day of Service by going to: <a href="http://takepart.com/CHAVEZ">http://takepart.com/CHAVEZ</a>; and be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That copies of this Resolution shall be transmitted to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate, to United States Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein, and to United States Congresswoman Barbara Lee.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**: That the Oakland City Council hereby directs the City Administrator to instruct the City's legislative lobbyist to advocate for the above position in Congress.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, SCHAAF, AND PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES – ABSENT – ABSTENTION –

ATTEST:

LATONDA SIMMONS
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the City of Oakland, California