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Approved as to Form and Legality

City Attorney's Office

## OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 84959 C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER VICE MAYOR LARRY E. REID

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING ASSEMBLY BILL 1661 THE HEALTHY OPTIONS FOR EVERYONE (HOPE) ACT OF 2014: ELIMINATION OF FOOD DESERTS (BONTA)

WHEREAS, When there is limited access to healthy and fresh food, it has a negative impact on the health outcomes of local communities and, areas with this lack of access are known as food deserts and are typically found in low-income communities, where the major food options generally include fast food chains and corner stores, stocked with processed foods that are high in sugar and fat, and;

WHEREAS, There is currently no standard definition of food deserts in state or federal code; however these areas are typically measured by (1) income-level of the community, (2) accessibility to sources of healthy food in terms of distance to a store or number of stores in an area, and (3) availability to public transportation or a personal vehicle, and the lack of a standard definition of "food desert" makes it difficult to approach the challenges associated with limited access to healthy and fresh food options, and;

Existing law provides no incentive for healthy and fresh food vendors to move into food deserts. Without a change, residents of these neighborhoods will continue to be isolated from nutritious food resources and suffer negative health outcomes, and;

**WHEREAS**, Existing law provides no incentive for healthy and fresh food vendors to move into food deserts, and without a change, residents of these neighborhoods will continue to be isolated from nutritious food resources and suffer negative health outcomes, and;

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 1661, as authored by Assembly Member Bonta, would define the term "food desert" in statute to create a standard definition in which to approach the problems related to limited healthy and fresh food access, and would also increase healthy and fresh food options in communities containing food deserts through the creation of HOPE Zones under the authorization of a city and/or a county, and healthy and fresh food vendors would be able to take advantage of appropriate business incentives if they chose to move into the HOPE Zones and met certain requirements, such as participating in EBT and WIC programs, and by increasing

access to healthy and fresh food resources, AB 1661 will improve the lifestyles and health outcomes of low-income communities; now, therefore be it

**RESOLVED:** That the Council of the City of Oakland proclaims its support for Assembly Bill 1661, The Healthy Options for Everyone (HOPE) Act of 2014: Elimination of Food Deserts, and authorizes the City Administrator to instruct the Legislative Lobbyist for the City to support the passage of Assembly Bill 1661.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

MAY 06 2014

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, GALLO, OBSOMMERIAMEN, KALB, KAPLAN, SCHAAF, AND PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN - 6

NOES - (C)

ABSENT - A

ABSTENTION -

Excused - Gibson Machaney, ATTEST:

Reid-2

LATONDA SIMMONS

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