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Approved as to Form and Legality

*Mark P. Wald*  
City Attorney's Office

## OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 86114 C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER DAN KALB

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**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SB 1282 (LENO) THAT WOULD, AFTER JULY 1, 2017, REQUIRE LABELING OF SEEDS AND PLANTS SOLD AT RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN TREATED WITH A NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDE, AND, BY 2018, DESIGNATE NEONICOTINOID PESTICIDES AS RESTRICTED MATERIALS PURSUANT TO STATE LAW**

**WHEREAS**, Our food supply depends on pollinators, bees pollinate 71 of the 100 crops that make up 90 percent of the world's food supply, and honey and wild bees in the United States are valued at over \$22 billion annually; and

**WHEREAS**, Since 2006, beekeepers have lost an average of 30 percent of their hives and, in the six years leading up to 2013, more than 10 million hives were lost, nearly twice the normal rate; and

**WHEREAS**, Neonicotinoids are a class of neuro-active insecticides chemically similar to nicotine; and

**WHEREAS**, In addition to killing bees outright, research shows that even low levels of neonicotinoid pesticides cause serious harm by impairing bees' ability to learn, find their way back to the hive, collect food, produce new queens, or to mount an effective immune response; and

**WHEREAS**, Recent research suggests that widespread agricultural use of neonicotinoids and other pesticides may be contributing to honey bee colony collapse disorder, as well as impacting other species of bees that contribute to pollination; and

**WHEREAS**, 2014, the Task Force on Systemic Pesticides, a group of global, independent scientists studying the impact of pesticides, reviewed more than 1100 peer-reviewed studies, and concluded that neonicotinoids are a key factor in bee declines and also harm other essential organisms, with report called for immediate regulatory action to restrict the use of neonicotinoids; and

**WHEREAS**, Neonicotinoids are one of the most widely used class of insecticides, that use continues to grow, consumers often overuse them, consumers also may be unaware that

many “bee friendly” garden plants and vegetable seedlings sold at home garden centers have been pre-treated with these bee-killing pesticides, neonicotinoids are frequently found in waterways, and honey bees can travel more than three miles in search of food, encountering neonicotinoids in both backyards and agricultural operations; and

**WHEREAS**, According to a 2014 Friends of the Earth study, more than half of “bee-friendly” plants purchased at Home Depot, Walmart, and Lowes stores in 18 cities across the US and Canada had levels of neonics at sufficient levels to kill bees outright; and

**WHEREAS**, More environmentally capatible alternatives and practices exist that can replace neonicotoids for common uses; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Oakland values pollinators and sustainability, has its own Pollintator Posse, and is home to apiaries, pollinator gardens, and residents and organizations who care and work on the health of our environment and food supply, and bees have been the focus of various Oakland garden workshops, walking tours, and an Oakland Museum *Bees* exhibit at the Oakland International Airport; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill (SB) 1282 (Leno) would after July 1, 2017, require labeling of seeds and plants sold at retail establishments that have been treated with a neonicotinoid pesticide, and, by 2018, designate neonicotinoid pesticides as restricted materials pursuant to state law, ensuring that are available for sale only to certified applicators, farmers, and veterinarians; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 1282 is endorsed by Bee Smart California, Center for Biological Diversity, Center for Food Safety, Clean Water Action, Defenders of Wildlife, Environment California, Friends of the Earth, Pesticide Action Network, Sierra Club California, Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, and many other groups; and now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED**: That the Oakland City Council hereby endorses SB 1282 and urges the California State Legislature and Governor Jerry Brown to support its enactment into law.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

APR 19 2016

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

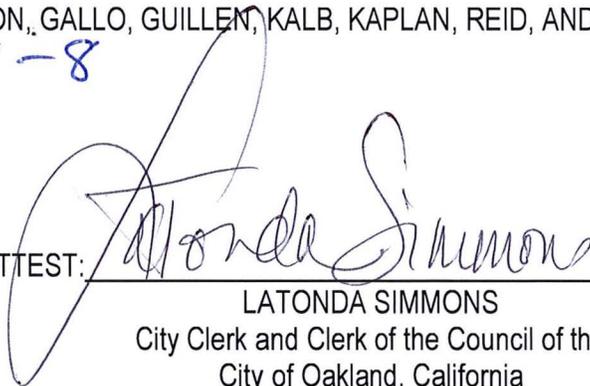
AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLEN, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, AND PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY - 8

NOES - 0

ABSENT - 0

ABSTENTION - 0

ATTEST:



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