

7 APR 27 PM 12:22

Approved as to Form and Legality

City Attorney's Office

## OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 86721 C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBERS KALB AND GALLO

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**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY BILL 291 (ASSEMBLYMEMBER CHIU) THAT WILL PROVIDE PROTECTIONS TO CALIFORNIA RENTERS FROM INTIMIDATION AND RETALIATION IN THEIR HOMES AND FROM DEPORTATION THREATS.**

**WHEREAS**, advocates for immigrants and tenants and legal aid organizations that serve those communities contend that discrimination, retaliation, and harassment based on immigration or citizenship status (including perceived status) is a difficult and persistent problem for the immigrant community in California—most of whom rent from landlords rather than own their own homes; and

**WHEREAS**, in recent years, the Legislature has enacted strong protections against immigration status threats in the workplace and it is timely to provide tenants the same protections in their homes; and

**WHEREAS**, landlords learn a lot about tenants including their social security numbers, the languages they speak, the times they're at home, and the identities of their families and tenants have little protection against misuse of this information; and

**WHEREAS**, while the majority of landlords are law-abiding, some less scrupulous landlords seek to avoid their legal obligations by threatening to report tenants to immigration authorities; and

**WHEREAS**, in some cases those threats are made to retaliate against tenants for reporting habitability issues and safety concerns, such as exposed electrical wiring and vermin, which landlords are legally required to remedy. In other cases, it's to avoid the statutory eviction process, which ensures due process for tenants at risk of losing their homes.

**WHEREAS**, in rent-stabilized units long-time tenants are targeted for eviction based on their suspected immigration status; and

**WHEREAS**, co-sponsored by the Western Center on Law and Poverty and the California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, AB 291 would enact the Immigrant Tenant Protection Act of 2017—a comprehensive act to establish numerous legal protections against the disclosure of tenants' immigration or citizenship status to federal immigration authorities and other parties; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED:** That the Oakland City Council supports Assembly Bill (AB) 291 (Chiu), state legislation that proposes many safeguards against potential harassment, retaliation, or discrimination against tenants based on their immigration or citizenship status, real or perceived; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the Oakland City Council supports adding a provision authorizing city attorneys, district attorneys, and the California Attorney General to enforce these provisions so that they are not left to the vulnerable victims to self-enforce, including enforcement for residential hotels where many immigrants stay; and, be it

**FURTHER RESOLVED:** That the City Administrator is directed to forward a copy of this enacted Resolution to state legislative elected officials representing Oakland, Governor Jerry Brown, and to the lobbyist for the City of Oakland to advocate for passage of AB 291.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

MAY 02 2017

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

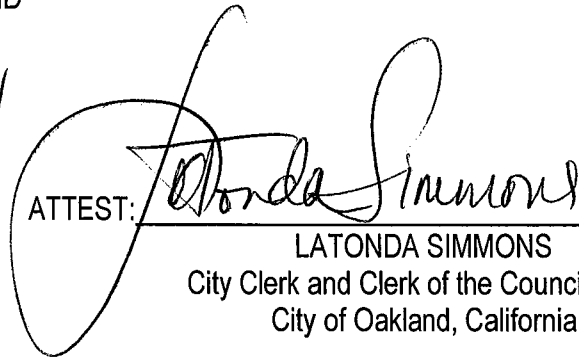
AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, ~~WASHINGTON~~, GIBSON MCELHANEY, GUILLÉN, KALB, ~~WASHINGTON~~ AND PRESIDENT REID

NOES - *Ø*

ABSENT - *Z. Gallo and Kaplan*

ABSTENTION - *Ø*

ATTEST:



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

2113442

17 APR 13 PM 4:36

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INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBERS KALB AND GALLO

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IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

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

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

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

2113442