RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 54 (DE LEON), PENDING AMENDMENTS, THAT WOULD PREVENT THE USE OF STATE AND LOCAL RESOURCES FOR FEDERAL IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS THAT WILL SEPARATE FAMILIES AND HURT THE STATE'S ECONOMY

WHEREAS, Executive Order 13768, issued by President Donald J. Trump on January 25, 2017, which, among other things, calls for the wholesale deportation of undocumented immigrants and threatens to deny federal funding to sanctuary cities, is estimated to result in the deportation of millions of immigrants living in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 13768 is overreaching, inhumane, and fails to account for the complex and multifaceted nature of immigration; and

WHEREAS, despite bipartisan support in Congress and among the people of the United States, Congress neglected to pass comprehensive immigration reform to holistically address the current immigration dynamic; and

WHEREAS, Oakland has historically been and remains today a city of immigrants and refugees, with 27 percent of the population being foreign born, 31 percent of which were born in Mexico; and, in all its forms, diversity provides a strong foundation of the City's economic vitality, cultural vibrancy and social character, and in the past, the Oakland City Council has recognized the contributions of immigrant communities in the City and throughout California, noting that "California's economy depends heavily on immigrant labor" and that "Oakland has a large immigrant community whose investments have contributed to the revitalization of the City's neighborhoods"; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland is committed to fair and just treatment of immigrants, regardless of their ethnicity, religion or place of origin, and has been on record since July 8, 1986 as a City of Refuge when it adopted Resolution No. 63950, promising to protect undocumented immigrants by not assisting in their prosecution, detainment and deportation based on the enforcement of federal immigration law; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill (SB) 54 (De León) will prevent the use of state and local law enforcement and other resources to aide federal immigration and Customs Enforcement
ICE) agents in deportation actions, except pursuant to a judicial warrant pertaining to violent offenders; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill (SB) 54 (De León) will serve to maintain trust between immigrant communities and both state and local law enforcement officials, which will keep all Californians safer as a 2013 study of Latinos in four major cities found that 70% of undocumented immigrants — and 44% of all Latinos — are less likely to contact the police if they were victims of a crime for fear that they will be asked about their immigration status, and 67% of undocumented immigrants and 45% of all Latinos are less likely to voluntarily offer information about, or report, crimes because of the same fear; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill (SB) 54 (De León) seeks to ensure effective policing, to protect the safety, well-being, and constitutional rights of the people of California, and to direct the state's limited resources to matters of greatest concern to state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill (SB) 54 (De León) will protect civil liberties from potential violations as State and local participation in federal immigration enforcement programs raises constitutional concerns, including the prospect that California residents could be detained in violation of the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution, targeted on the basis of race or ethnicity in violation of the Equal Protection Clause, or denied access to education based on immigration status; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council hereby endorses SB 54 and urges the California State Legislature and Governor Jerry Brown to support its enactment into law and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Administrator is hereby directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the sponsor of Senate Bill (SB) 54, State Senator Kevin De León, State Senator Nancy Skinner, Assembly Members Rob Bonta and Tony Thurmond and Governor Jerry Brown.

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