

15 APR -9 PM 3:49 OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No 85518 C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCIL MEMBER KALB

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF STATE ASSEMBLY BILL (AB) 700 (GOMEZ & LEVINE), THE CALIFORNIA DISCLOSE ACT, THAT WOULD REQUIRE RADIO, TELEPHONE, TV, AND VIDEO ADS REGARDING BALLOT MEASURES TO STATE THE TOP CONTRIBUTORS TO THE COMMITTEE PAYING FOR THE AD

WHEREAS, Misleading political advertising by big-money interests hiding behind good-sounding committee names and other organizations can sometimes deceive voters into supporting or opposing some ballot measures and voters would like to receive more useful disclosure about the true funders of the ads, and

WHEREAS, Disclosing the largest true funders of political ads on the ads themselves would help voters make better-informed decisions; and

WHEREAS, While existing state law requires any ballot measure ad to disclose the top two donors of \$50,000 or more and requires the names of ballot measure committees to include some information regarding economic or other special interests providing major support for the committee, transfers between committees and persons can be used to evade the purpose of the disclosure and hide the original source of the major funding; and

WHEREAS, in July of 2013, the Oakland City Council unanimously endorsed support for SB 52 (Leno & Hill), a prior version of the California Disclose Act, to provide disclosure of top contributors to the committee paying for campaign ads regarding ballot measures but the bill was ultimately not adopted by the California legislature in 2014, similar to other versions of the California Disclose Act, AB 1148 (Brownley) and AB 1648 (Brownley); and

WHEREAS, the ongoing efforts by many groups and individuals to pass a California Disclose Act dovetails with the national campaign to pass a Federal Disclose Act, in the wake of the flood-gate-opening *Citizens United* Supreme Court decision and heightened national concern regarding obfuscated financing of election campaigns; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 700, introduced by Assemblymembers Jimmy Gomez and Marc Levine on February 25, 2015, would require radio, telephone, tv, and video ads regarding ballot measures to identify on each ad the top two highest original source contributors of \$50,000 or more to the committee paying for the ad and thereby provide enhanced public disclosure and election finance transparency; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 700 is supported by the California Clean Money Campaign and will likely see growing mass popular support, as SB 52 was endorsed by scores of organizations and governments, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council hereby endorses Assembly Bill (AB) 700.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

APR 21 2015

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES - BROOKS, CAMPBELL-WASHINGTON, GALLO, GUILLEN, KALB, KAPLAN, ~~REID~~, AND PRESIDENT GIBSON MCELHANEY - 7

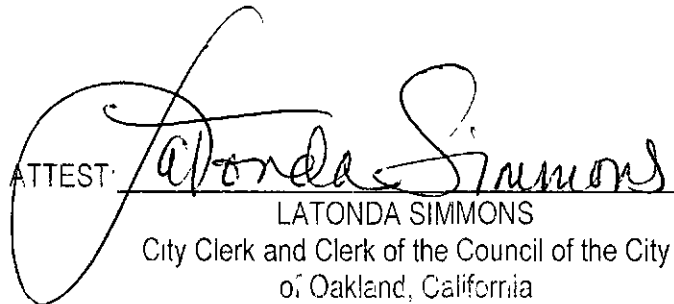
NOES - 0

ABSENT - 0

ABSTENTION - 0

Excused - Reid - 1

ATTEST:



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