

**RESOLUTION  
OF THE  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF THE  
OAKLAND UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Resolution No. 1718-0076  
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**SUPPORTING THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (“SNAP”, ALSO KNOWN AS CALFRESH OR FOOD STAMPS), AND OPPOSING CUTS OR OTHER RESTRICTIONS TO THE PROGRAM**

**WHEREAS**, The U.S. President and Congress are currently considering making drastic cuts to, and changes to the structure of the benefit entitlements provided by the SNAP program, **through** either the 2018 Farm Bill re-authorization or the 2017 Budget Reconciliation process; and

**WHEREAS**, SNAP, in its 40<sup>th</sup> year, is a highly effective and efficient program that serves as our nation’s first line of defense against hunger, which is a condition of poverty that affects our entire state; and

**WHEREAS**, SNAP, known as CalFresh in California, is targeted to the most vulnerable households in California’s communities, annually keeping 806,000 Californians out of poverty, including 417,000 children, during the last recession; and

**WHEREAS**, Nearly one in three Oakland children live in poverty and over 72% of Oakland Unified School District students qualified for free or reduced price school meals in 2016; and

**WHEREAS**, Over 18,000 Oakland Unified School District students rely on CalFresh to meet their basic nutritional needs; and

**WHEREAS**, Participation in CalFresh leads to better educational outcomes for low income children including the ability to concentrate, regulate emotions and engage in positive behavior, improvements in mathematics and reading skills, and increased likelihood of graduating from high school; and

**WHEREAS**, Research also shows that participation in SNAP (CalFresh) decreases the likelihood of students needing to repeat a grade, which can have very significant long-term effects on the healthy development of children into adulthood; and

**WHEREAS**, California’s anti-hunger network is based on voluntary participation of members of the food industry, faith-based, tribal, public and non-profit organizations, and private citizens. Although these donations and distribution efforts provide relief to hungry low-income children every day, it represents one out of every 20 emergency meals and is not enough to close the hunger gap without the SNAP program.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Oakland Unified School District expresses strong support for SNAP/CalFresh, and strong opposition to any efforts to cut or block grant the program.

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PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District this 27th day of September, 2017, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAINED:

ABSENT:

**CERTIFICATION**

We, James Harris and Kyla Johnson-Trammell, President and Secretary of the Board of Education of the Oakland Unified School District, respectively, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly approved and adopted by the Board of Education of said District at its Regular Meeting held on the 27th day of September 2017, with a copy of the Resolution being on file in the Office of the Board of Education of the District.

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James Harris  
President  
Board of Education

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Kyla Johnson-Trammell  
Secretary  
Board of Education