

RESOLUTION NO. 2015- 06

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELL, CALIFORNIA SUPPORTING THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT AND THE VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, insufficient income contributes to many of the social and human service needs in our state; and,

WHEREAS, the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) provides tax relief and income support to low income working families; and,

WHEREAS, the EITC lifts millions of individuals out of poverty each year in the United States by supporting work and self-sufficiency while reducing the need for public assistance; and,

WHEREAS, every year 800,000 families who qualify for EITC fail to apply for the credit, representing a loss of \$1.2 billion in increased income for local communities; and,

WHEREAS, increasing the use of EITC by the qualified citizens of the City of Bell, would help stimulate our local economy and increase access to millions of dollars in income; and,

WHEREAS, every resident earning less than \$52,427 a year may qualify for \$6,143 in EITC which may be used to lower their taxes or increase their tax refund; and,

WHEREAS, for every 1,000 residents who qualify and apply for EITC, it represents a potential \$6 billion in economic stimulus for our community; and,

WHEREAS, increasing EITC utilization represents a highly cost-effective economic development strategy; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Bell encourages the City Manager to identify and utilize existing and potential public/private partnerships to inform citizens about the availability of the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit and Volunteer Income Tax Assistance programs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Bell does hereby encourage each city entity to work in partnership with private outreach campaigns to identify and utilize existing communications mechanism to inform their employees and citizens about the availability of the EITC and VITA programs, which may include city publications, billing notices websites, human resource materials and communications, correspondence, and forms from the City Business Tax and Fee department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Bell hereby directs the City Manager to place a public service announcement on the City's local cable show and to have VITA related posters and brochures at City facilities including public libraries, city hall, and all public sites throughout the city; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Bell join the California State Board of Equalization, Franchise Tax Board, Internal Revenue Service and Jerome E. Horton, Chairman

to the California State Board of Equalization in advocating the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program to qualified families and individuals.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED on January 28, 2015.


Nestor E. Valencia, Mayor

ATTEST:


Angela Bustamante, Acting City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


David Aleshire, City Attorney

CERTIFICATE OF ATTESTATION AND ORIGINALITY

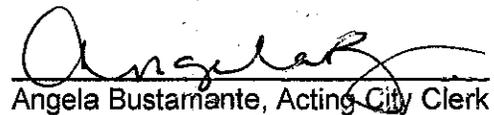
I, Angela Bustamante, Acting City Clerk of the City of Bell, hereby attest to and certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Bell City Council at its regular meeting held on the 28th day of January, 2015, by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Alvarez, Quintana, Saleh, Vice Mayor Romero and Mayor Valencia

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None


Angela Bustamante, Acting City Clerk