



Office of the Los Angeles City Attorney  
Hydee Feldstein Soto

REPORT NO. **R 2 4 - 0 3 2 1**  
**JUN 2 0 2024**

**REPORT RE:**

**DRAFT ORDINANCE AMENDING PORTIONS OF CHAPTER 62 OF  
DIVISION 5 OF THE LOS ANGELES ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TO FACILITATE  
THE CLOSING OF THE ERNANI BERNARDI SCHOLARSHIP TRUST FUND**

The Honorable City Council  
of the City of Los Angeles  
Room 395, City Hall  
200 North Spring Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Council File No. 14-0187-S1

Honorable Members:

Pursuant to your request, this Office has prepared and now transmits for your consideration the enclosed draft ordinance, approved as to form and legality. The draft ordinance amends portions of Chapter 62 of Division 5 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code (LAAC) concerning the Ernani Bernardi Scholarship Trust Fund (Fund) to facilitate the awarding of scholarships in full disbursement of all the monies held in the Fund and to close the Fund.

The Fund was established in 1993 and named after former Los Angeles City Councilmember Ernani Bernardi who represented the Northeast San Fernando Valley communities of Council District 7, as redistricted, from 1961 through 1993. The Fund was initially established as an endowment fund to provide scholarships for eligible students residing in Council District 7 who attended Mission College, a community college situated in the Sylmar neighborhood. The initial endowment for the Fund was paid out of the Lopez Canyon Trust Fund, with a transfer of \$265,000.

Since its establishment, the terms of the Fund have been amended on two occasions. The first amendment, adopted in 2011 by the Council, revised the geographic area from where eligible recipients needed to reside within the City of Los Angeles (City), expanded the scholarship for any higher education institution located in the City and expanded the composition of the awards panel from three members (comprised of Councilmembers from Districts Two, Seven, and Twelve) to seven members - selected by Councilmembers from Districts Two and Seven. In 2014, the Council adopted a second amendment for the Fund, which expanded the scholarship to include any higher education institution regardless of the location.

With approximately \$78,186 remaining after 30 years, the City seeks to expend the remainder of the monies held in the Fund. To facilitate the expenditure of the remainder, the draft ordinance: (1) delegates the selection of the seven members of the awards panel solely to the Office of Council District 7; (2) designates the awards panel to recommend the selection of eligible scholarship recipients to the Councilmember of Council District 7 based upon the criterion recommended by and logistical support of the Office of Council District 7; (3) allows for the disbursement of scholarships without an annual mandate; and (4) directs the closure of the Fund upon the disbursement of all the monies held.

Council Rule 38 Referral

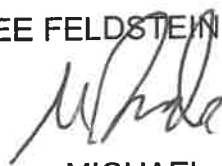
A copy of the draft ordinance was sent, pursuant to Council Rule 38, to the Chief Legislative Analyst and the Office of the City Administrative Officer. Their comments have been incorporated.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Assistant City Attorney Charles Hong at (213) 978-7782. A member of this Office will be available when you consider this matter to answer questions you may have.

Sincerely,

HYDEE FELDSTEIN SOTO, City Attorney

By



MICHAEL J. DUNDAS  
Senior Assistant City Attorney