

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Herb J. Wesson, Jr. was elected into the City Council representing Council District 10 and served from 2005 to 2020; and

WHEREAS, during his time in office, he worked to bring over one million Angelenos out of poverty in addition to ensuring that all Angelenos received a livable wage by passing the minimum wage to \$15 per hour; and

WHEREAS, he enacted Ban the Box legislation to remove employment barriers for the formerly arrested, convicted, and incarcerated; and

WHEREAS, he also worked hard to enact one of the most robust sick-leave policies in the State of California and nationally; and

WHEREAS, Wesson created the City's first Homelessness and Poverty Committee along with a Comprehensive Homeless Strategy and worked to devise and champion the passage of Measure H and Proposition HHH; and

WHEREAS, with the help of Mayor Eric Garcetti and the Board of Water and Power Commissioners, Wesson ensured that the City was moving away from and shutting down coal-powered facilities by 2025, while moving towards the construction and purchasing of solar, wind, and other renewables; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure, he adopted a single-use plastic bag policy and a plastic straws-on-request ordinance to reduce our waste stream and create a more sustainable future for our residents; and

WHEREAS, Wesson played a major role in winning the Olympic bid, ensuring that the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games will be held in the City of Los Angeles, further cementing the City of Los Angeles' status as the world capital of sports and entertainment; and

WHEREAS, he helped make Council History by hiring its first ever female Chief Legislative Analyst, Sharon Tso; and

WHEREAS, he created My VoiceLA, an online system that allows City employees to report instances of harassment or retaliation anonymously; and

WHEREAS, under his presidency, the Council took steps towards closing the pay disparity in sports by requiring equal compensation for any competition featuring both male and female divisions taking place in Los Angeles and requiring a permit from the City; and

WHEREAS, he sought to right the wrongs made by the War on Drugs by creating the Social Equity Program that would reduce the barriers to ownership of commercial cannabis businesses for those who have been convicted of marijuana-related offenses and those who live or have lived in neighborhoods heavily affected by marijuana arrests; and

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WHEREAS, he honored the first African American President of the United States by renaming Rodeo Road, Obama Boulevard, so children no matter the color of their skin can be reminded every time they ride down Obama Blvd. that no dream is too far out of reach; and

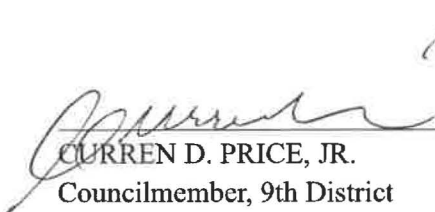
WHEREAS, he worked to unify Angelenos and empower communities by challenging our city to have open and honest conversations about race and racism through the embRACE LA initiative resulting in the potential creation of the Office of Racial Equity which would work to create a Los Angeles where all Angelenos are included, empowered, and fully participate civically; and


WHEREAS, he created the first ever full-time policy committee dedicated to working on Immigrant Affairs and passed monumental legislation including declaring Los Angeles a City of Sanctuary, increasing protections against the disclosure of tenants' immigration or citizenship status to federal immigration authorities, ensuring that all residents of the City of Los Angeles are protected; and

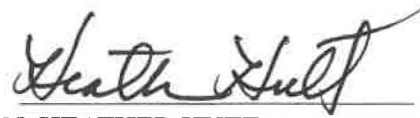
WHEREAS, he adopted the first Civil and Human Rights ordinance in the City of Los Angeles' history that prohibits the discrimination, prejudice, intolerance and bigotry that denies equal treatment to any individual because of the individual's race, color, ethnicity, creed, age, national origin, citizenship status or perceived status, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation or perceived orientation, disability, marital status, partnership status, employment status or source of income.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that by the adoption of this Resolution, the Council of the City of Los Angeles hereby recognizes Herb J. Wesson, Jr.'s leadership and service to the City by naming the stairs entering City Hall South (111 E. First Street) as **Herb J. Wesson, Jr. Steps**.

PRESENTED BY:


CURREN D. PRICE, JR.
Councilmember, 9th District


MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON
Councilmember, 8th District


HEATHER HUTT
Councilmember, 10th District

SECONDED BY: 
PAUL KERKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

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