RESOLUTION. RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations, or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, slavery, often identified as "the original sin of the United States," deprived the self-evident life and liberty of African Americans, as well as inflicting numerous traumas and injuries on them; and

WHEREAS, following the abolition of slavery, policies and practices were mobilized intentionally to perpetuate and profit from systematic racism against African Americans; and

WHEREAS, these historical injustices have resulted in contemporary inequalities permeating the most fundamental aspects of our society and have limited access to equal opportunity; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before the California State Assembly is AB 3121 (Weber) which would establish the Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans to produce a report on impacts of slavery and recommend appropriate measures for reparation based on findings; and

WHEREAS, the bill would create an eight-member task force to be comprised of diverse candidates from four civil society and reparations organizations appointed by the Governor and the California State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the taskforce would gather information, hold meetings, request testimony and the production of records and documents, and would have the power to request an order from the Superior Court compelling testimony or the production of documents; and

WHEREAS, the taskforce would provide a report including a record of the institution of slavery and would include recommendations for educating Californians on the findings of the report, and would also include options for reparation and eligibility for reparation to the State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, we must not allow the legacy of slavery to remain unacknowledged and unchallenged and be prepared to confront the implicit inequalities of our society;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2019-2020 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 3121 (Weber) which would establish the Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans to produce a report on impacts of slavery and recommend appropriate measures for reparation based on findings.

PRESENTED BY:

MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON

Councilmember, 8th District

CURREN D. PRICE

Councilmember, 9th District

Councilmember, 10th District

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