

RESOLUTION RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATION

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, on April 28, 2021, the City of Los Angeles established an Office of Racial Equity (ORE) within the City's Civil, Human Rights and Equity Department to: 1) analyze public and private policies and practices; 2) advance anti-racist policy recommendations; and 3) actualize anti-racist training and capacity-building initiatives; and

WHEREAS, current State law establishes an Office of Health Equity for purposes of aligning State resources, decision-making, and programs to accomplish certain goals related to health equity and protecting vulnerable communities; and

WHEREAS, the State Office of Health Equity is required to develop plans to close the gaps in health status and access to care among the State's diverse racial and ethnic communities, women, persons with disabilities, and LGBTQ+ communities; and

WHEREAS, current State law also establishes the Task Force to Study and Develop Reparation Proposals for African Americans, with a special consideration for African Americans who are descendants of persons enslaved in the United States; and

WHEREAS, on December 20, 2020, SB 17 was introduced in the State Senate to establish a State Office of Racial Equity to be governed by a Racial Equity Advisory and Accountability Council (REAAC) and provides that REAAC members shall be appointed by the Governor, Senate Committee on Rules, and the Speaker of the Assembly to two-year terms and that such appointments reflect the cultural, ethnic, racial, linguistic, sexual orientation, gender, immigration status, socio-economic, and geographical diversity of the State; and

WHEREAS, the author of the bill notes that in the United States, Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) have experienced centuries of inequality and systemic racism beginning when European colonizers stripped tens of millions of Indigenous and native people of their identity, culture, language, lifestyle, families, work, history, and traditions; and

WHEREAS, the author of the bill further notes that institutional and systemic racism continues to permeate our society in insidious ways and extensive research has identified racism as a public health crisis leading to significant health disparities, including infant and maternal mortality, chronic diseases, life expectancy, and, more recently, COVID-19 mortality; and

WHEREAS, the City should support SB 17 as it aligns with the City's equity priorities which aim to achieve racial equity and ending systemic racism;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2021-2022 State Legislative Program SUPPORT of SB 17 which would create the State Office of Racial Equity to be governed by a Racial Equity Advisory and Accountability Council.

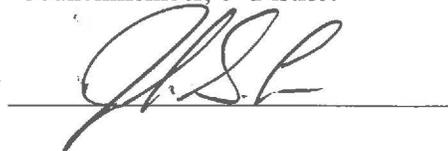


PRESENTED BY



MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON
Councilmember, 8th District

SECONDED BY



ORIGINAL

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JUN 22 2021