

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; and

WHEREAS, fentanyl is a synthetic opioid and a Schedule II controlled substance, the abuse of which has contributed substantially to an increase in opioid-related fatalities throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, fentanyl can take several different forms, including pills, powder, and liquid, and is often mixed with other illicit substances such as methamphetamines, cocaine, and heroin; and

WHEREAS, the potency of trace amounts of fentanyl as well as the difficulty of detecting its presence in other substances can make any exposure, whether through ingestion, inhalation, or contact through the skin, potentially lethal; and

WHEREAS, synthetic opioids were responsible for a majority of drug-related deaths in 2021 and have been the lead cause of death for persons from the age of 18 to 45, surpassing COVID-19 and suicide; and

WHEREAS, the Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) estimates that synthetic opioids, primarily fentanyl, have resulted in approximately 74,000 deaths between July 2021 and June 2022; and

WHEREAS, the illicit use, sale, and distribution of fentanyl is prohibited by the federal government, and state governments have taken additional regulatory and enforcement measures to stem the proliferation of fentanyl and fentanyl-related fatalities; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before the California State Legislature is SB 44 (Umberg) which would require a written notice be provided to those convicted or who have plead guilty to the manufacture or distribution of fentanyl on the potential for criminal liability resulting from any deaths related to the offense; and

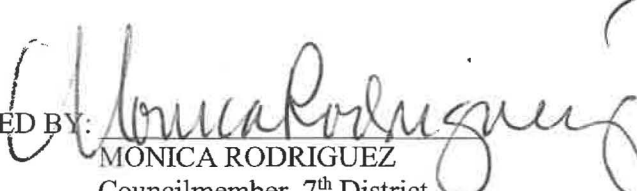
WHEREAS, the bill, also known as Alexandra's bill, is modeled after the State's existing driving-under-the-influence (DUI) advisory; and

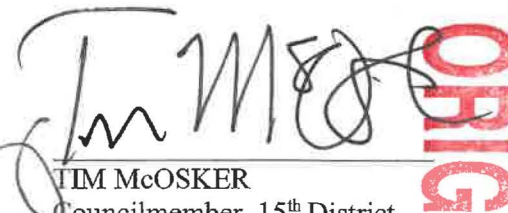
WHEREAS, the proposed advisory would note the danger to human life caused by the manufacture or distribution of controlled substances, and inform persons convicted or pleading guilty to the distribution, import, or sale of fentanyl that they may be held criminally liable for any deaths resulting from the offense in question; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the State of California implement all regulatory options available to halt the spread of fentanyl and provide justice to those who knowingly produce or distribute the fatal substance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-2024 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for SB 44 (Umberg) which would require a written notice be provided to those convicted or who have plead guilty to the manufacture or distribution of fentanyl on the potential for criminal liability resulting from any deaths related to the offense.

PRESENTED BY:


MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilmember, 7th District


TIM McOSKER
Councilmember, 15th District

MAR 07 2023

SECONDED BY:



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