

RESOLUTION

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, the United Nation's International Labor Organization reported human trafficking as the fastest growing criminal industry of the 21st century, generating approximately \$150 billion annually; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Human Trafficking hotline, California has one of the highest rates of human trafficking in the country; and

WHEREAS, trafficking victims are often isolated from their families and social networks and, in some cases, are separated from their countries of origin, native languages, and cultures; and

WHEREAS, language barriers, fear of their traffickers, and/or fear of law enforcement keep victims from seeking help and contribute to making human trafficking a hidden crime; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before the California State Legislature is Senate Bill (SB) 376, which would provide human trafficking victims the right to an advocate and their choice of a support person present at interviews performed by law enforcement authorities, prosecutors, or defense attorneys; and

WHEREAS, SB 376 would require human trafficking advocates to advise victims of the applicable limitations on the confidentiality of their communications with the advocate; and


WHEREAS, SB 376 would also impose a state-mandated local program to require the attending law enforcement authority or prosecutor to notify victims of their right to have a human trafficking advocate and support person; and

WHEREAS, human trafficking advocates are trained to have the skills, resources, and ability to support victims and create a safe atmosphere for disclosure; and

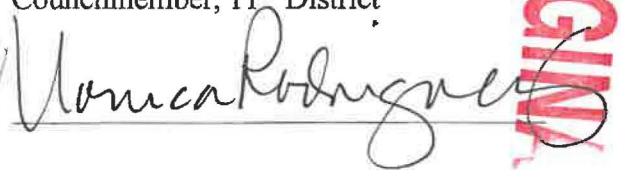
WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles should support SB 376 to support trafficking victims with accessing the assistance and resources they need;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2023-24 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for Senate Bill 376 to provide human trafficking victims the right to have a human trafficking advocate and support person present during law enforcement and legal interviews, and notification of their rights and confidentiality limitations.

PRESENTED BY:


TRACI PARK
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY:



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