

BUS RIDERS UNION

버스 승객 조합
Sindicato De Pasajeros

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February 9, 2012

Councilmember Tony Cárdenas
councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org

Facsimile: (213) 847-0549

Councilmember Bernard Parks

Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org

Facsimile: 213-485-7683

Los Angeles City Council

200 North Spring Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Councilmembers Cardenas and Parks:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of the Bus Riders Union, we would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

As you both know, the Bus Riders Union is a civil rights organization with 3,000 members and 50,000 supporters on the buses in Los Angeles. Our membership is overwhelmingly Black, Latino, Asian Pacific Islander, very low income and includes a lot of students. For years, our students members have struggles on an under-resourced bus system to get to school on time, and for years they have talked about getting ticketed under the daytime curfew law as they try to make their way to school. This is part of a larger disturbing dynamic of low income Black and Latino people in LA – especially young people – experiencing constant harassment by the police.

The current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don’t work – they do not reduce crime --- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior.

The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources to become productive residents of Los Angeles.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,



Sunyoung Yang
Lead Organizer, Bus Riders Union



Barbara Lott-Holland
Co-Chair, Bus Riders Union

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750
Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck, contact.lapdonline@gmail.com
facsimile: (213) 486-0168
City Attorney Carmen A. Trutanich, ctrutanich@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-8312
Councilmember Eric Garcetti, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org,
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September 28, 2011

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 Facsimile: 213-485-7683
 Los Angeles City Council
 200 North Spring Street
 Los Angeles, CA 90012

(Sent via facsimile)

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04 (CF# 09-2255-S1)

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of Public Counsel Law Center, we would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

Public Counsel is the public interest law office of the Los Angeles County and Beverly Hills Bar Associations and the Southern California affiliate of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. Established in 1970, Public Counsel is dedicated to advancing equal justice under law by delivering free legal and social services to indigent and underrepresented children, adults and families throughout Los Angeles County. In 2010, Public Counsel's Children's Rights Project provided representation and advocacy to more than 25,000 of the most vulnerable children in Los Angeles County, including foster and delinquent youth, children with special needs, and homeless children.

The current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targets all students and, in particular, students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don't work -- they do not reduce crime --- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior.

The law hits our clients, families with low-incomes, the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. For Myra who was ticketed, even though she had a doctor's for being late to school, she had to miss two days of school to contest the ticket in Court, and her mother had to miss two days of work, forfeiting close to \$200 in wages that she needed to help keep a roof over her children's heads. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources – like tutoring and mentoring -- to become productive residents of Los Angeles.

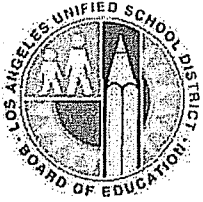
We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,



Laura Faer
Education Rights Director
Public Counsel

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750
Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck, contact.lapdonline@gmail.com
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LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Theodore Roosevelt High School
School of Communications, New Media and Technology
456 SOUTH MATHEWS STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90033
TELEPHONE: (323) 780-6500 FAX: (323) 269-5473



Dr. John Deasy
Superintendent of Schools
Colleen Oliver
PLAS Chief Academic Officer
Ben Gertner
CNMT Principal

November 22, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar,
Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0680

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Member Jose Huizar:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of *Roosevelt School of Communications, New Media and Technology* we would like to urge you to support this critically important issue.

CNMT is a small school of about 480 students on the Roosevelt High School campus. Although we are striving to improve our attendance rates, the daytime curfew law is a blunt instrument that disproportionately impacts our low-income families and hasn't been shown to have a significant positive effect on attendance. This motion would provide space for more proactive, supportive approaches to encouraging regular attendance.

The current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don't work – they do not reduce crime --- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior.

The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los



The School of Communications, New Media, and Technology (CNMT) will prepare all students for college, career, and civic engagement. We will be a social justice-focused community school utilizing a Linked Learning approach with a thematic emphasis on communications, new media and technology.





LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Theodore Roosevelt High School
 School of Communications, New Media and Technology
 456 SOUTH MATHEWS STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90033
 TELEPHONE: (323) 780-6500 FAX: (323) 269-5473



Dr. John Deasy
 Superintendent of Schools
Colleen Oliver
 PLAS Chief Academic Officer
Ben Gertner
 CNMT Principal

Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources to become productive residents of Los Angeles.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

Ben Gertner
 Principal

cc:

- Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750
- Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck, contact.lapdonline@gmail.com facsimile: (213) 486-0168
- City Attorney Carmen A. Trutanich, ctrutanich@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-8312
- City Council President Eric Garcetti, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 613 0819
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- Councilmember Tony Cárdenas councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org Facsimile: (213) 847-0549
- Councilmember Bernard Parks Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org Facsimile: 213-485-7683



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November 22, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar,
Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213)847-0680

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

I'm writing to you to modify the "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04), because it affects the student's families. I am a student at school of law and government at Roosevelt High School, Where there are plenty of students that come from low income families.

If students get the \$250 tickets because they are late to school most students won't be willing to show up to school. Plus many of our parents struggle with financial issues, they can't afford to pay that much money and it doubles if you get caught again. Parents have other responsibilities like work and making sure to pay bills.

The reasons for the students coming in late might be because of dropping off their siblings or the bus came in late. There are always reasons to why students come in late, they shouldn't be punished by a \$250 ticket, and maybe community service would be better.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,
Claudine Rodriguez

1320 Rio Vista Ave. 2102
Los Angeles, California

November 23, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar
Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org
Facsimile :(213) 847-0680

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Member Jose Huizar:

I am writing this letter to you because I believe that you should support Tony Cardenas motion to amend "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students along with their families because it has been proven that it hasn't increased your constituents' safety.

Personally, I would find it to be not beneficial to receive a ticket for trying to get to school. My education would be affected because I would have to be a lot more focused on how to pay for a ticket or doing my community service hours rather than be thinking about my educational duties.

This law affects the families of low income the most and I believe that many of your constituents are indeed of low income background. The fines are \$250 which puts families between the wall and the blade, because they might be forced to choose between paying that ticket and feeding their families.

Although it is true that some students are tardy just because of being lazy and lack of interest in being at school, it also holds true that many get to school late because of illness, public transportation, family problems and sometimes its due the fact that they have to drop off their younger siblings at their school, which starts at a later time.

By amending this critical motion, you will help to stop unnecessary penalization of students who are trying to get to school, late but they have the desire to go because they can simply stay home. This amendment will help to minimize court involvement by instead making connections between schools and the students to become productive residents of the city of Los Angeles,

I strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,
Karla Arredondo
118 S. Fickett St.
Los Angeles, CA 90033

November 22, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar,
Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0680

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

I'm writing to you to modify the "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04), because it affects the student's families. I am a student of Roosevelt High School, where in the community there's plenty of low income families.

Students who receive the ticket end up missing school for more than a day, just to attend court. This law is wasteful and unfair because it just targets low income families instead of targeting all students no matter what race they are. Many students have working class parents but they don't get paid enough to pay the ticket. Many parents can't afford \$250 because they have other important duties to worry about like pay rent and get food.

Many reasons that students go late is because the bus is passing late or they went to go drop off their brothers or sisters to school or they have family problems. You need to keep in mind that not all go late because they woke up late or didn't want to go early to school. You need to understand what students go through now a day.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,
Joselin Reyes

3310 opal st.
Los Angeles, CA, 90023

November 22, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar
Councilmember Huizar@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0680

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Member Jose Huizar,

My name is Francisco Covarrubias, current student at Roosevelt Law & Government High School. Asking you Mr. Huizar if you would consider supporting to amend the (ticketing students) Law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has been proven to be a very crucial punishment to students and families in Boyle Heights community. Council Member Tony Cardenas is in support to amend LAMC45.04 for his district and community. This law has not showed or given any positive feedback to the community nor students. In addition, it has created negative support and problems for the parents of students I would like to ask for your support towards this harsh and crucial important issue.

This law has been assign to help and encourage the students to go to school and stay of the streets. Unfortunately this is only applying to students that live in a poor low income community which is us, colored students. Police officers have given out tickets to students who are on their way to school and even right out side school entering I have seen this happen personally in my school. The LAPD has issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 mostly to African American and Latino students. Causing varies problems just for one ticket for example, parents miss day of work without pay, students miss 2 or 3 days of school. LAMC 45.04 clearly does not decrease crimes. Student that go to court (mandatory when given ticket) are more likely to drop out of school and be active on committing crimes. Many of our parents do not have the time to go to court for something that is unnecessary. They loose money different ways not getting paid for missing work, and have to pay the citation. Our parents do not have such money to be wasting forcing them to: 1st skip court date and not pay, 2nd cut food or rent money that is needed for families in the City of Los Angeles, this states that there needs to be a reform to amend LAMC 45.04 as soon as possible.

The police does not know the varies reasons why students are late or absent to school. I have interviewed students these are some answers, " There bus was late, family issues, parent is ill crucial disease, take a sibling to school first far from theirs having almost same start time. The common sense amendment in this critical motion will stop the unfair ticketing for truancy to students that are just on their way to school even if their late increase the support towards humble families in the community. Families will be helped if LAMC 45.04 is amended.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion

Sincerely,

Francisco Covarrubias
Address: 122 ½ N. Breed Street,
Los Angeles, CA 90033
Contact Info: (213) 984-7613

November 22, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar,
Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0680

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

I'm writing to you to modify the "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04), which in my eyes has been more of a burden rather than a solution.

Currently, the student's are given \$250 fine if they are caught breaking the current daytime curfew (which starts at 8:30a.m until 1:30pm). This has been statically proven to target certain group of students. Latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009.

The \$250 is an extra burden on these families. Now this is meant to be a punishment and lesson for the kids, it then turns into a punishment and burden to the parents.

As a student,I am asking to please modify the punishment. Instead of a \$250 fine, 25 hours of community service at a local school, hospital, pet store, etc. This gives the student some kind of new skill it doesn't become a burden and the community benefits as well.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,
Aurora Bermeo

November 21, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar,

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

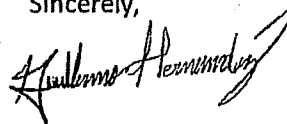
Dear Council Member Jose Huizar:

My name is Guillermo Hernandez, I am a student attending Roosevelt High school. I am writing in strong support of your motion to amend the "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of Student Guillermo Hernandez of Theodore Roosevelt High school, I would like to urge you to support this critically important issue.

The current day time curfew is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targeting all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistic reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. These students face a fine of up to \$250 which their parents will end up having to pay. In addition these students will miss 2 to 3 days of school, only adding to the problem. How is this a solution, going back to the problem. When you scold a student you're attempting to teach them a lesson that school is important. By ticketing and making them miss additional days of school you're only making them dislike the educational system even more. That's why I ask you to your support to amend the "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04).

We strongly urge you the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,



Guillermo Hernandez

November 21, 2011

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear council Member José Huizar:

My name is Susana Ramirez and I am a student at Roosevelt High school. I am writing to you to let you know that I do not agree with the "daytime curfew" law. I believe it's ineffective and it unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. Statistics show that the students getting the most tickets are African American and Latino Students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearing and the school themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance funding for those missing days.

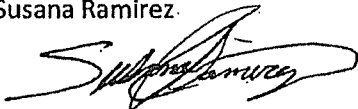
This law not only affects the student's school but it also affects the student's family. This law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics, like food for the family. I come from a low-income family, and I know how hard it is for my parents to get that amount of money. We don't have that amount of money to be wasting it on something other than for bills and food.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister to brother to a different school with the same start time

I strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

Susana Ramirez

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susana Ramirez", written over a horizontal line.

November 21, 2011

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear council Member José Huizar:

I believe the "daytime curfew" law is a good idea. This law will push students to wake up early and be on school on time because no student will want to get a ticket of that amount of money. Students know that no parent will like the idea of paying 250 dollar therefore students will avoid getting one.

I am a father of two high school students, and I wouldn't want them to get a ticket but if that's what needs to happen for them to realize punctuality is important then so be it. this law will also make them more responsible and I believe that very important.

Sincerely,

Ranulfo Ramirez

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ranulfo Ramirez". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'R'.

November 23, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar,
Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to AMEND LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Member Jose Huizar:

I'm writing to you to modify the "day time curfew" law (LAMC section 45.04), because it affects the student's families. I am a student of Law and government at Roosevelt High School, where there are plenty of students that come from low income families.

In my immediate family there are 6 of us in total. My father works in construction and does not make a lot of money, and my mother just recently started working. Everyday before she goes off to work we must drive to Pico Rivera to pick up my grandmother (she takes care of my little sister) then we drop off my brothers at school. After all that my mom finally brings me to school and then she takes off to work. Luckily I'm not late a lot but when I am its not because I "woke up late" it's because I have a set of responsibilities I must complete before I come to school everyday.

The reason for the students coming in late might be because they go what I go through or because the bus came in late. There are always reasons to way students come in late, we shouldn't be punished by a \$250 ticket, and maybe community service would be better.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,
Samantha Lopez

3054 Malabar St.
Los Angeles, California

November 23, 2011

Council member Jose Huizar,

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Council Member Huizar,

My name is Mariana Silva; I am a student at Roosevelt High School. I am in support of your motion to amend the "daytime curfew" (LAMC Section 45.04). Police officers have targeted minorities in the past years. In the years between 2005 through 2009 statistics have shown police issued more than 47,000 tickets to African American and Latino student.

When a student receives a ticket they miss even more school days to attend mandatory court hearings, this causes schools to loose Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding. Most Latino families just make the minimum wage; families can't afford to pay a \$250 ticket. With that money families can pay for other basic needs. Students have different reason to be late which include delays with transportation, family problems, illness, or they need to walk their little sister or brother to a different school.

In my personal experience, I am late most of the time to my first class and I would get discouraged to come to school if I was getting to school, and I would get a ticket on the way because I was late. y mother wouldn't be able to afford to pay a \$250 ticket because she makes the minimum and she is a single parent. With that money she can pay part of the rent or the bills. The reason I am late is not my own fault. My mom and I have to look out for my grandmother, she is an elderly women and a diabetic, she can't really do certain things for herself. My mom and I have to wake up early to cook for my grandmother and even at times give her a bath. We also have to check her blood sugar as well as her blood pressure. At times she doesn't want to corporate so I am late to my first class.

Sincerely,
Mariana Itzel Silva



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Theodore Roosevelt High School

456 S. Mathews Street, Los Angeles, California 90033
Telephone (323) 780-6500 • Fax (323) 269-5473

November 23, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar,
Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0680

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

(Sent via facsimile or email)

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Member Jose Huizar:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of *Roosevelt High School*, we would like to urge you to support this critically important issue.

As a teacher at Roosevelt High School in Boyle Heights, I feel that our youth are the key to guiding our next seven generations. When we treat our students like criminals, we are destined to perpetuate a behavior that they will see as normal. And as a result, will filter that same behavior down to their peers. Therefore, finding alternative ways to guide our youth by not ticketing them because of their truancies will and can be transformative.

The current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don’t work – they do not reduce crime --- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior.

The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Theodore Roosevelt High School

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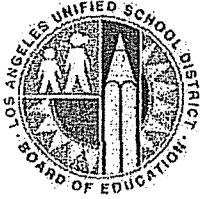
There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources to become productive residents of Los Angeles.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

Miss Jeanette Godoy

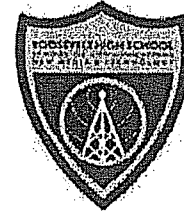
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councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org
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Councilmember Bernard Parks
Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org
Facsimile: 213-485-7683



LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Theodore Roosevelt High School

School of Communications, New Media and Technology
456 SOUTH MATHEWS STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90033
TELEPHONE: (323) 780-6500 FAX: (323) 269-5473



Dr. John Deasy
Superintendent of Schools
Colleen Oliver
PLAS Chief Academic Officer
Ben Gertner
CNMT Principal

November 22, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar,
Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0680

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Member Jose Huizar:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of *Roosevelt School of Communications, New Media and Technology* we would like to urge you to support this critically important issue.

As a teacher serving the community of Boyle Heights for 10 years I have learned so much from the youth and families, from their joys to their struggles. I have witnessed the negative impact the tickets have had on students emotionally, and academically and also the economic hit that parents have to take. The economic burden is especially felt in this community, where most families are making poverty wages. Amending LAMC 45.04 would have direct positive results to my students and the community families that I serve.

The current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don't work – they do not reduce crime --- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior.

The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per



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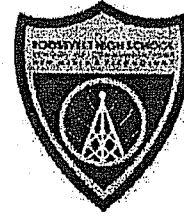




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Dr. John Deasy
Superintendent of Schools
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CNMT Principal

ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources to become productive residents of Los Angeles.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

Jorge Lopez
Teacher

cc:

- Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750
- Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck, contact.lapdonline@gmail.com facsimile: (213) 486-0168
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- Councilmember Bernard Parks Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org Facsimile: 213-485-7683



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ORGANIZATION LETTERHEAD

November 21, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar,
Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0680

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Member Jose Huizar:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of in the school of Law & Government at Theodore Roosevelt High School, we would like to urge you to support this critically important issue.

As a social justice educator, LAMC 45.04 negatively impacts my students and students at Roosevelt High School. An amendment would definitely benefit all groups.


The current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don’t work – they do not reduce crime --- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior.

The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources to become productive residents of Los Angeles.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,



Eduardo López

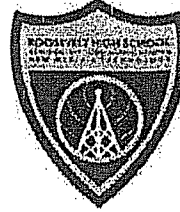
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LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dr. John Deasy
Superintendent of Schools
Colleen Oliver
PLAS Chief Academic Officer
Ben Gertner
CNMT Principal

November 22, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar,
Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0680

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Member Jose Huizar:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of *Roosevelt School of Communications, New Media and Technology* we would like to urge you to support this critically important issue.

As a student teacher at Roosevelt High School in Boyle heights, I feel that students should be treated as such and not criminalized by the ticketing that is occurring. Not only are the fines affecting the students, but their families as well. The costly fines have proven to be a financial burden on the families that have been affected by the ticketing. It is crucial that we resort to other methods to motivate students to show up to school everyday and on time!

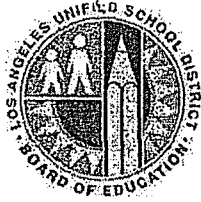
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The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los



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Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources to become productive residents of Los Angeles.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

Elvira Rios
 Teacher

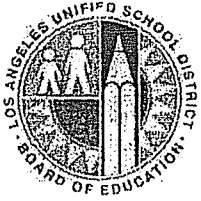
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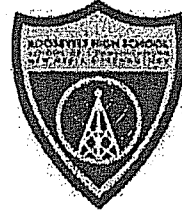




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Superintendent of Schools
Colleen Oliver
PLAS Chief Academic Officer
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CNMT Principal

November 22, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar,
Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0680

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Member Jose Huizar:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of *Roosevelt School of Communications, New Media and Technology* we would like to urge you to support this critically important issue.

As a teacher at Roosevelt High School in Boyle Heights, I feel that it is counterproductive and harmful to a community when students are criminalized for coming to school, for however late it is. This is different than a student who is ditching, but as I have learned, many of our students are caretakers and assist their younger siblings. I have seen the consequences of having a policy which keeps kids out of class, and it has never worked to strengthen their education, but instead disenfranchises them even more from their culture and society.

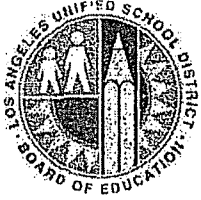
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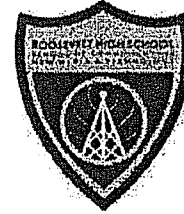


The School of Communications, New Media, and Technology (CNMT) will prepare all students for college, career, and civic engagement. We will be a social justice-focused community school utilizing a Linked Learning approach with a thematic emphasis on communications, new media and technology.





LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Theodore Roosevelt High School
 School of Communications, New Media and Technology
 456 SOUTH MATHEWS STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90033
 TELEPHONE: (323) 780-6500 FAX: (323) 269-5473



Dr. John Deasy
 Superintendent of Schools
Colleen Oliver
 PLAS Chief Academic Officer
Ben Gertner
 CNMT Principal

not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources to become productive residents of Los Angeles.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

Gene K. Dean
 Teacher

cc:

- Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750
- Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck, contact.lapdonline@gmail.com facsimile: (213) 486-0168
- City Attorney Carmen A. Trutanich, ctrutanich@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-8312
- City Council President Eric Garcetti, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 613 0819
- President Pro Tempore Jan Perry, facsimile: (213)473-5946
- Assistant President Pro Tempore Dennis P. Zine, facsimile: (213) 485-8988
- Councilmember Richard Alarcon, facsimile: 213.847.0707
- Councilmember Mitchell Englander, Councilmember.Englander@lacity.org facsimile: (213) 473-6925
- Councilmember Jose Huizar, Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org facsimile: (213) 847-0680
- Councilmember Paul Koretz, facsimile: (213) 978-2250
- Councilmember Paul Krekorian, facsimile: (213) 978-3092
- Councilmember Tom La Bonge, tom.labonge@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 624-7810
- Councilmember Ed Reyes, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 485-8907
- Councilmember Bill Rosendahl, facsimile: (310) 410-3946
- Councilmember Herb J. Wesson, Jr., facsimile: (213) 485-9829
- Councilmember Tony Cárdenas councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org Facsimile: (213) 847-0549
- Councilmember Bernard Parks Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org Facsimile: 213-485-7683



The School of Communications, New Media, and Technology (CNMT) will prepare all students for college, career, and civic engagement. We will be a social justice-focused community school utilizing a Linked Learning approach with a thematic emphasis on communications, new media and technology.



November 23, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar,
Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0680

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Member Jose Huizar:

I am writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. I urge you to support this critically important issue.

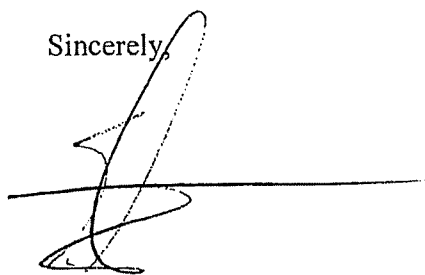
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The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources to become productive residents of Los Angeles.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jose Huizar', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Federico Lozano
Roosevelt Math Teacher

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750
Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck, contact.lapdonline@gmail.com
facsimile: (213) 486-0168
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Facsimile: (213) 847-0549
Councilmember Bernard Parks
Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org
Facsimile: 213-485-7683

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.05

Dear Council Member Jose Huizar:

I'm a student at the Roosevelt High School of Law and Government, writing to you to express my vehement support of your motion to re-construct the "daytime curfew" that states "Any minor under the age of 18, who is subject to compulsory education or to compulsory continuation education, alone or in concert with others, to be present in or upon the public streets". Daytime curfew has failed to stop truancy, as well as violence, in many of the schools in your local district and community. On behalf of my Boyle Heights community, we would like to urge you to revisit this matter that affects our community and our people.

The daytime curfew does not stop students from being truant to school. This law is ineffective in our community. I strongly believe that students will continue to miss school despite receiving tickets. Public authorities are not going to be able to ticket every student who is not attending school. When a student is given a ticket, he/she gets the option to pay the fine or attend court. When a student cannot pay the fine, he/she is obligated to attend court. Therefore, students miss out on even more days of education attending court! "Daytime curfew "will not stop violent crimes in my community. In order to stop violence in this community, you will have to find a solution to the existence of gangs. Gangs are the primary cause of violence in our community.

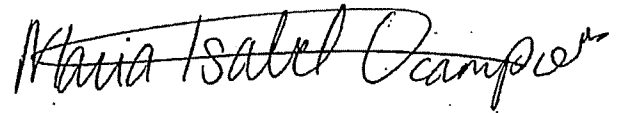
Most of the families being affected by the curfew law are low income families. There are many reasons why students are found in public areas where they can get a ticket. Some students have valid excuses that are implemented in the curfew law as exceptions. But some students just try to avoid given a ticket and prefer to lie to public authorities. I am in favor of the urge to amend the curfew law. It is proven that student miss more school days when given a ticket either they have to go to work with their parents in order to pay the fine. Or some students get involve in easy money such as selling drugs to other students in school. This law causes even more problems to the public authorities then they already have to deal with.

In my personal opinion, all minors have nothing better to do then to attend school and get a good education. Since education is the most important thing in to create a better future. Full of success in our community, lets not be the numbers my community is mostly

latinos we get criticized about every move we make. Lets stop that and prove we are not just a number or a statistic lets show we have true knowledge and we are powerful just like another ethnicity in this country. I understand that public policy is never perfect therefore I suggest instead of tickets community service or trips to juvenile hall. Were students will see that life out of school is not that easy as they picture. I understand that these trips will cause money delays for the city but if you want to invest in our future anything is possible with taking a risk. In order to provide an eye opening to students who keep on being truant to school and think it does not matter for their future. I strongly consider this law to be effective if it has more realistic factors to it.

Sincerely,

Maria Ocampo.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maria Isabel Ocampo". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name "Maria Ocampo".

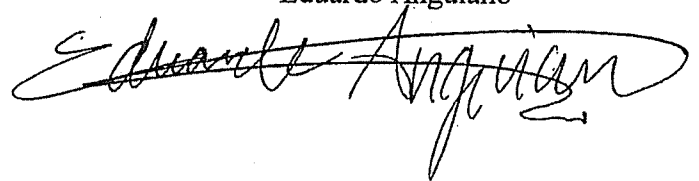
Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street,
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.05

Dear Council Member Jose Huizar,

love +
I'm writing to you today as parent of two toddlers and an uncle, I have nephews and nieces that attend school on a daily basis. Having a good education throughout High School is a big factor for the students in order to have an overall education. Not only will the student have education but attending school will make the student more responsible. Minors do not have any other responsibility then to attend school. They are not able to work since there is not a law that can make exceptions to students under the age of 18 years old. In the other hand if you give the student freedom they will not make the right decisions. It has been proven that a lot of truant students given freedom, end up committing crimes. I notice that the students getting tickets are Latinos, I am a Latino myself, I want the best for my community and my family. I strongly urge you to reconsider the severe punishment of giving tickets to students. They miss school to attend school since most of the students are not able to pay the fine they were given. I would gladly appreciate it if you take into consideration not having to give tickets but other factors such as community service. Since this community needs as much cleaning around the neighborhood. I believe that this law should be kept into a strict measure but with no tickets unless the student *have* enormous truancies.

Sincerely,
Eduardo Anguiano



November 23, 2011

Councilmember Jose Huizar,
Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0680

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Member Jose Huizar:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. As a student teacher at Roosevelt High School and highly invested in the Boyle Heights community, I urge you to support this critically important issue.

The current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don’t work – they do not reduce crime --- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior.

The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources to become productive residents of Los Angeles.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

Wendy Fierro
Teacher

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750
Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck, contact.lapdonline@gmail.com
facsimile: (213) 486-0168
City Attorney Carmen A. Trutanich, ctrutanich@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-8312
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Councilmember Tony Cárdenas
councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0549
Councilmember Bernard Parks
Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org
Facsimile: 213-485-7683



Teacher Education Program
Graduate School of Education and Information Studies
Moore Hall, Box 951521
Los Angeles, CA 900095-1521
January 14, 2012

Councilmember Tony Cárdenas
councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0549
Councilmember Bernard Parks
Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org
Facsimile: 213-485-7683
Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

I am writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. I would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

As an educator and researcher in UCLA's Teacher Education Program, I know from personal experience and from the current educational research that the current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don't work – they do not reduce crime --- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed.

The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources to end the criminalization of tardiness and truancy.

I strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion!

Sincerely,

Amina Humphrey, M.A., Ph.D.
English Resident Advisor/Recruiter
Center X/Teacher Education Program
UCLA's Graduate School of Education and Information Studies
(310) 922-2858



February 9, 2012

Councilmember Tony Cárdenas
councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0549
Councilmember Bernard Parks
Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org
Facsimile: 213-485-7683
Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

(Sent via email)

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (“APALC”), a member of Asian American Center for Advancing Justice, we would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

APALC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing civil rights and social justice through legal services, advocacy, litigation, and leadership development. APALC is the largest legal organization in the country serving the Asian and Pacific Islander communities. We have a long history of working in coalition with other communities of color to improve access to education, eliminate discrimination, and increase diversity. Currently, we provide leadership development training, advocacy, and legal services to a diverse cross-section of low-income students of color who attend public schools in Los Angeles and are subjected to LAMC 45.04. While we strongly and unequivocally oppose the criminalization of low-income students of color to respond to attendance problems, we support measures that address the root causes of these problems.

The current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LEGAL CENTER

1145 Wilshire Blvd., 2nd Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90017

T (213) 977-7500 F (213) 977-7595

www.apalc.advancingjustice.org

going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don't work – they do not reduce crime --- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior.

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We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,



Nicole Ochi
Staff Attorney
Asian Pacific American Legal Center

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750
Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck,
contact.lapdonline@gmail.com, facsimile: (213) 486-0168
City Attorney Carmen A. Trutanich, ctrutanich@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-8312
Councilmember Eric Garcetti, councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org,
facsimile: (213) 613 0819
Councilmember Jan Perry, jan.perry@lacity.org, facsimile: (213)473-5946

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LEGAL CENTER

Member of the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice

Councilmember Dennis P. Zine, Councilmember.zine@lacity.org, facsimile:
(213) 485-8988
Councilmember Richard Alarcon, Councilmember.alarcon@lacity.org,
facsimile: 213.847.0707
Councilmember Mitchell Englander, Councilmember.Englander@lacity.org
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Councilmember Paul Koretz, paul.koretz@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-2250
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Councilmember Bill Rosendahl, Councilman.rosendahl@lacity.org, facsimile:
(310) 410-3946
City Council President Herb J. Wesson, Jr., Councilmember.wesson@lacity.org,
facsimile: (213) 485-9829

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LEGAL CENTER

Member of the Asian American Center for Advancing Justice



September 26, 2011

Councilmember Tony Cárdenas
councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0549

Councilmember Bernard Parks
Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org
Facsimile: 213-485-7683

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

(Sent via facsimile or email)

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of the members, staff, and Board of **Community Asset Development Re-defining Education (CADRE)** we would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

For the last decade, CADRE has been rooted in the lives and experiences of South LA African American and Latino parents and caregivers whose children attend local public schools, and whose children are the very ones most likely to be caught in the crosshairs of this law. With poverty and high degrees of crisis concentrated in this community over several generations, our parent members already face considerable challenges to ensuring that their children have their basic needs met and attain an education. As a result, CADRE has been organizing South LA parents and providing them with the space to acquire the advocacy and policy change skills, as well as power in numbers, to change the political obstacles to raising their children as students in South LA. With an emerging base of 300 members, CADRE has been invested in transforming school discipline in LAUSD, as well as other policies that inappropriately and disproportionately punish South LA children and youth for the complex barriers they face, leaving them saddled with law enforcement interaction and criminal records rather than a high school diploma.

The current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful, and unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don’t work – they do not reduce crime --- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior.

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hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

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We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,



Maisie Chin
Executive Director/Co-Founder

Roslyn Broadnax
Core Parent Leader

Danielle LaFayette
Associate Director of Organizational Growth

Eddie Madison
Core Parent Leader

Rob McGowan
Associate Director of Organizing

Leticia Arevalo
Core Parent Leader

Thelmy Perez
Lead Organizer

Silvia Mendez
Core Parent Leader

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa
mayor@lacity.org

Facsimile: (213) 978-0750

Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck
contact.lapdonline@gmail.com

Facsimile: (213) 486-0168

City Attorney Carmen A. Trutanich
ctrutanich@lacity.org

Facsimile: (213) 978-8312

City Council President Eric Garcetti
councilmember.garcetti@lacity.org

Facsimile: (213) 613 0819

President Pro Tempore Jan Perry

Facsimile: (213) 473-5946

Assistant President Pro Tempore Dennis P. Zine

Facsimile: (213) 485-8988

Councilmember Richard Alarcon

Facsimile: (213) 847-0707

Councilmember Mitchell Englander
Councilmember.Englander@lacity.org

Facsimile: (213) 473-6925

Councilmember Jose Huizar
Councilmember.Huizar@lacity.org

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Councilmember Paul Koretz

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Councilmember Paul Krekorian

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tom.labonge@lacity.org

Facsimile: (213) 624-7810

Councilmember Ed Reyes
councilmember.reyes@lacity.org

Facsimile: (213) 485-8907

Councilmember Bill Rosendahl

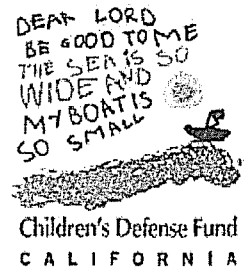
Facsimile: (310) 410-3946

Councilmember Herb J. Wesson, Jr.

Facsimile: (213) 485-9829

November 28, 2011

Councilmember Tony Cárdenas
councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0549
Councilmember Bernard Parks
Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org
Facsimile: 213-485-7683
Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012



Re: Strong Support for Motion that would Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

I am writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), as the daytime curfew law has proved to be detrimental to students and their families as well as failed in increasing community safety or promoting school attendance. On behalf of the Children’s Defense Fund – California, we would like to thank you for your leadership on this important issue and reiterate our support of your motion.

The Children’s Defense Fund (CDF) is a national child advocacy organization committed to ensuring every child a safe start and a fair start in life and a successful passage to adulthood. For years the Children’s Defense Fund has been deeply concerned about the cradle to prison pipeline that gives African American boys born in 2001 a one in three chance of going to jail, and Latino boys born in 2001 a one in six chance of the same fate. A key part to dismantling this cradle to prison pipeline is dismantling the school to prison pipeline that is funneling too many of our youth away from the education they deserve and need and into unemployment or even the juvenile or criminal justice systems. Our schools and our policies around education in Los Angeles and across the country must seek to level the playing field, not make it worse. Yet the current daytime curfew law does increase inequity, as it unfairly targets students of color. Indeed, the latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students.

In addition to being inequitable, the current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful, and counter-productive. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research confirms that curfew statutes don’t work – they do not reduce crime --- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior. The Children’s Defense Fund believes it is imperative we keep kids out of the justice system whenever possible, not funnel them in for things like tardiness to school.

The law also hits families with low-incomes the hardest, even forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – in order to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, mental or physical illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. This motion offers some common sense amendments that will stop unnecessarily penalizing students who are trying to get to school (even if they are late), ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to the resources they need to be successful in school.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion, and to get rid of all fines associated with daytime curfew and reduce the need for court appearance or involvement.

Sincerely,

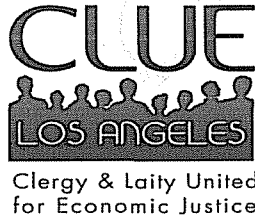


Michelle Newell
Policy Associate
Children's Defense Fund – California

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750
Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck, contact.lapdonline@gmail.com facsimile:
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City Attorney Carmen A. Trutanich, ctrutanich@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-8312
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Councilmember Herb J. Wesson, Jr., facsimile: (213) 485-9829

December 8, 2011

464 Lucas Ave #202 • Los Angeles, CA 90017 • 213-481-3740 • Fax 213-481-3741 • www.cluea.org • Printed in-house



Councilmember Tony Cárdenas Councilmember Bernard Parks
councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org
Facsimile: (213) 847-0549 Facsimile: 213-485-7683

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

We strongly support your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved detrimental to students and their families and has failed to increase community safety. We would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

Religious leaders whom we represent witness firsthand the debilitating effects of unnecessary criminalization of our youth in our churches, mosques, synagogues, and temples. Our young people need smart support, not simplistic subjugation.

The current daytime curfew law unfairly targets all students, particularly students of color. Police officers issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009, a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. **Students who receive curfew tickets miss more school** to attend mandatory court hearings; the schools then lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Research also unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don’t work – they do not reduce crime. The law hits families with low-incomes hardest, often forcing them to choose between buying food for the family or paying hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. This undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04. There are many reasons why students are late or absent—Delays with public transportation, family problems, illness, even a need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. Common sense amendments in this motion will stop unnecessary penalization of students trying to get to school, even if late, ensuring that their families not suffer undue financial hardships, thus minimizing court involvement and instead connecting children to resources to end the criminalization of tardiness and truancy.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion. Blessings,

Rabbi Jonathan Klein
Executive Director

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750 LAPD Chief Charlie Beck,
contact.lapdonline@gmail.com facsimile: (213) 486-0168 City Attorney Carmen A. Trutanich, ctrutanich@lacity.org,
facsimile: (213) 978-8312

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Pastor Bridie Roberts
Program Director

Samantha Contreras
Office Manager

February 8, 2012

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Councilmember Bernard Parks

Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org

Facsimile: 213-485-7683

Los Angeles City Council

200 North Spring Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(Sent via facsimile or email)

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04) to stop students of color from being targeted with \$250 fines for being tardy or truant. LAMC 45.04 is one of the worst examples of punitive “zero tolerance” policies that criminalize students and create “pre-prison” conditions in our schools. On behalf of the Labor/Community Strategy Center Community Rights Campaign, we would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

The Community Rights “No to Pre-Prisons” campaign seeks to reverse conditions that criminalize our youth, such as daytime curfew citations. In Problems of Los Angeles Municipal Code 45.04: Why Los Angeles Must Decriminalize Truancy, we detail the negative consequences of the enforcement of LAMC 45.04, consequences which would only be aggravated by this proposal. These include but are not limited to:

- discouraging students from going to school for fear of being ticketed
- causing significant financial and emotional stress on students and families
- creating a more hostile school environment for students

LAMC 45.05 targets students of color and their families. The latest statistics reveal that, under this curfew law, police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009. 82% of the tickets went to African American and Latino students, and 7% to white students. This law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices – like sacrificing food, or medical care – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket.

Studies show curfew laws are ineffective and wasteful. Research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don’t work – they do not reduce crime.ⁱ Studies also show that when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early.ⁱⁱ LAUSD already has a much more effective “positive behavior support” policy for handling student tardiness and truancy. On top of their ineffectiveness, curfew laws also impact school funding. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school—sometimes two or three days—to attend mandatory court hearings. Those missed days cause the schools themselves to lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding.

Cardenas/Parks Motion puts education first by eliminating punitive fines and prioritizing student support. There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The proposed amendments to the curfew law would go a long way to ensuring that students who are trying to get to class and graduate will be given support to do so and not become another statistic lost in the juvenile justice system. The amendments would

- eliminate the harsh fines,
- keep students out of the court system, and
- connect students to resources to help them deal with the root causes of their attendance problems.

Building on LAPD's directive. By issuing a directive in April to change how LAMC 45.05 is enforced, Chief Beck took an important first step toward a permanent solution for the serious civil rights harms and deficiencies of the curfew law. This motion completes the circle by amending the law itself and restoring the central role of teachers, parents and students—not police—in changing school culture to support student attendance.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

Barbara Lott-Holland and Ashley Franklin
Senior Organizers, Community Rights Campaign
Labor/Community Strategy Center

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750
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ⁱ *Counterproductive and Wasteful: Los Angeles' Daytime Curfew Pushes Students Away from School and Diverts Resources Away From Real Community Safety.* ACLU of Southern California, Public Counsel, Community Rights Campaign. Feb 2012.

ⁱⁱ *Make Court the Last Resort: A New Focus for Supporting Families in Crisis.* Vera Institute of Justice. Dec 2008.



November 28, 2011

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International Brotherhood of Teamsters

Tom Walsh
President
UNITE HERE! Local 11

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Councilmember Bernard Parks

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Facsimile: 213-485-7683

Los Angeles City Council

200 North Spring Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(Sent via facsimile or email)

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

On behalf of the Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy (LAANE) and RePower LA Campaign, we are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04). We would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue and efforts to improve the lives of youth and young adults throughout Los Angeles.

As an organization that is fighting to create quality jobs for low-income communities throughout the region, we are committed to removing barriers to academic and vocational opportunities. Over the last decade, we have seen the tremendous disadvantages young adults face in the job market when they have convictions on their record. Often times, their initial contacts with the justice system are facilitated through laws such as the one you are working to amend.

As an organization, we also applaud your efforts to redistribute valuable resources from enforcing ineffective curfew laws to addressing other pressing needs like quality job creation. We strongly urge you and the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

Jessica Goodheart

Director, RePower LA Campaign (LAANE)

213-977-9400 ext. 135



Los Angeles Community Action Network

November 16, 2011

Councilmember Tony Cardenas
Councilmember Bernard Parks
Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

(Sent via email)

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Councilmembers Cardenas and Parks:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of the Los Angeles Community Action Network we would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

The Los Angeles Community Action Network is a grassroots organization working in Downtown and South Los Angeles. Our members are generally extremely low-income individuals and families, who are struggling even more than ever in this economic environment. Our members living in the Pueblo del Rio public housing development have been most impacted by the daytime curfew law, as most have school-aged children. Additionally, last year the Housing Authority added truancy as a reason for eviction – creating even more detrimental impacts from the daytime curfew law citations. Thankfully, after tenants organized against this new policy, it was recently rescinded.

The current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don’t work – they do not reduce crime --- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior.

The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket.

Los Angeles Community Action Network

530 S. Main Street, Ground Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90013

Phone # 213-228-0024 Fax # 213-228-0048 www.cangress.org

.....

November 16, 2011

Page 2

As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,



Becky Dennison
Co-Directors



Pete White

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa
Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck
City Attorney Carmen A. Trutanich
City Council President Eric Garcetti
President Pro Tempore Jan Perry
Assistant President Pro Tempore Dennis P. Zine
Councilmember Richard Alarcon
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5801 S. San Pedro Street, LA, Ca 90011 323-238-0445 323-230-6271 f

February 7, 2012

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Councilmember Bernard Parks
Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org
Facsimile: 213-485-7683
Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

SENT by FACSIMILE AND EMAIL

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches is writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches Board of Trustees and congregations members, we would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

LAM network of small churches are located primarily in South LA and we represent 50 congregations and approximately 4,000 voters. Our churches are a safe meeting place and resource for loved ones and parents doing their best to educate and protect their children in Los Angeles City. As you know, African American and Latino children and low income families face the most obstacles and challenges in pursuit of public education. Please organize approval of LAMC 45.04 and make this legislative change a priority in the City of LA and you'll send a message to parents and voters that you care about their children. You can make it right for low income families in the City.

The current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily

Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don't work – they do not reduce crime --- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior.

The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources to become productive residents of Los Angeles.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

Kelvin T. Calloway

Pastor Kelvin T. Calloway,
President Board of Trustees, Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches (LAM)
Bethel AME Church

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750
Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck, contact.lapdonline@gmail.com facsimile: (213) 486-0168
City Attorney Carmen A. Trutanich, ctrutanich@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-8312
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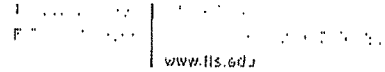
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facsimile: (213) 624-7810 Councilmember Ed Reyes, councilmember.reyes@lacity.org , facsimile: (213) 485-8907

Councilmember Bill Rosendahl, facsimile: (310) 410-3946 Councilmember Herb J. Wesson, Jr., facsimile: (213) 485-9829



FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

TO: **President Pro Tempore Jan Perry:** (213) 473-5946
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Councilmember Paul Koretz: (213) 978-2250
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FROM: Michael J. Smith, Associate Clinical Law Professor
 Director, Youth Justice Education Clinic
 Center for Juvenile Law and Policy at Loyola Law School

TELEPHONE: (213) 736-1337

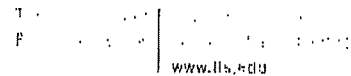
DATE: September 30, 2011

NO. OF PAGES: 3 (including cover page)

RE: Letter of Support for Amendment of LAMC 45.04

PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR AMENDMENT TO LAMC 45.04

THIS MESSAGE AND THE DOCUMENTS ATTACHED ARE INTENDED ONLY FOR THE USE OF THE INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY TO WHICH IT IS ADDRESSED AND MAY CONTAIN INFORMATION THAT IS PRIVILEGED, CONFIDENTIAL, AND EXEMPT FROM DISCLOSURE UNDER APPLICABLE LAW. IF THE READER OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, OR THE EMPLOYEE OR AGENT RESPONSIBLE FOR DELIVERING THE MESSAGE TO THE INTENDED RECIPIENT, YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT ANY DISSEMINATION, DISTRIBUTION, OR COPYING OF THIS COMMUNICATION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE NOTIFY US IMMEDIATELY BY TELEPHONE, AND RETURN THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE TO US AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS VIA THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE. THANK YOU.



LOYOLA
LAW SCHOOL LOS ANGELES



September 29, 2011

Via EMAIL

Councilmember Tony Cárdenas
councilmember.cardenas@lacity.org

Councilmember Bernard Parks
Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

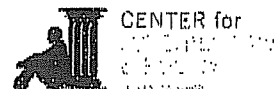
Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proven to be detrimental to students and their families and has not increased community safety. On behalf of the Center for Juvenile Law and Policy, we would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

The Center for Juvenile Law and Policy, through its Youth Justice Education Clinic and Juvenile Justice Clinic, represents many children (some already involved with the juvenile justice system) who attend schools within the City of Los Angeles. We very rarely encounter a child who is tardy or absent because they do not want to learn; it is usually due to environmental or family circumstances beyond their control or the stress and frustration of attending schools that have consistently failed to identify and meet their educational needs. In fact, many schools that we encounter do not make students and parents feel welcome or supported and do not try to engage students in the process of learning. This is particularly true of “high risk” youth who may need additional resources and time to become successful and productive students.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including: unmet special education or mental health needs, delays with public transportation, family problems, school bullying or harassment, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. Students have told us that they will not try to attend school if they are just a little late, for fear they will be ticketed in a tardy sweep. Additionally, we have seen special education students ticketed even where school attendance is related to their disability (often because of anxiety or depression) and specifically addressed in their special education plan. As you know, the current daytime curfew law is ineffective and unfairly targets students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and



Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days to attend mandatory court hearings, and school districts lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Additionally, research confirms that curfew statutes do not reduce crime and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to drop out of school and engage in high risk behavior.

The law impacts families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices between paying for the basics, like food for the family, and paying the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the excessive financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need to amend L.A.M.C 45.04.

The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessary penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late; ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships; and help minimize court involvement of youth by connecting them with critically needed resources.

We therefore strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael J. Smith".

Michael J. Smith
Director, Youth Justice Education Clinic
Center for Juvenile Law and Policy at Loyola Law School

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org.
Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck, contact.lapdonline@gmail.com
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ORGANIZATION LETTERHEAD

November 5, 2011

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Councilmember Bernard Parks

Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org

Facsimile: 213-485-7683

Los Angeles City Council

200 North Spring Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(Sent via facsimile or email)

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

I am writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of Manual Arts High School, I would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

[Please insert how LAMC 45.04 impacts your students and the conscious/strategic effort Manual Arts has adopted to restore truancy/tardiness as a school site discipline issue.]

The current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and overwhelmingly targets the black and brown students whom are all working class. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don’t work – they do not reduce crime – and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior.

The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will

stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750
Los Angeles Police Department Chief Charlie Beck, contact.lapdonline@gmail.com
facsimile: (213) 486-0168
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MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY SERVICES, INC.

A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION PROVIDING LEGAL SERVICES TO PEOPLE WITH MENTAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

3255 WILSHIRE BLVD., SUITE 902
LOS ANGELES, CA 90010

PHONE (213) 389-2077
FAX (213) 389-2595

October 12, 2011

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Councilmember Bernard Parks
Bernard.Parks.Jr@lacity.org
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Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

(Sent via facsimile or email)

Re: Support for Motion to Amend Los Angeles Municipal Code §45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

Mental Health Advocacy Services, Inc. (MHAS) is writing in strong support of your motion to amend the “daytime curfew” ordinance (Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) §45.04) to reduce its punitive effects on students, including the imposition of fines. This ordinance has disproportionately affected low-income students of color while failing to meaningfully increase community safety. MHAS is particularly concerned about the potential for overuse of daytime curfew or truancy ordinances on children with special needs and learning challenges. On behalf of MHAS, we would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

MHAS is a non-profit legal services agency that provides direct legal services to adults and children with mental health disabilities in Los Angeles County. MHAS also engages in policy work and impact litigation in furtherance of its mission to protect and advance the legal rights of children and adults with mental disabilities in order to maximize autonomy, promote equality, and secure the resources needed to thrive in the community. MHAS is concerned about the enforcement of daytime curfew ordinances because student absences often indicate that children and teens have unmet educational needs and other problems that can lead to school drop-out, unemployment, and incarceration. Baker, Sigmon & Nugent, *Truancy Reduction: Keeping Students in School*, Juvenile Justice Bulletin (2001). While causes of truancy are many, they can include unmet mental health needs and poor academic performance due to unmet special education disabilities. *Truancy Is a Risk Factor for Other Problems*, National Center for School Engagement, www.schoolengagement.org/Truancypreventionregistry, p. 5-6. For these reasons, it is important that law enforcement and schools be judicious in their reliance on daytime curfew

ordinances such as LAMC §45.04. MHAS supports the pending motion that LAMC §45.04 be amended to ensure that it is not overly broad or punitive.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Respectfully submitted,

MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY SERVICES, INC.

By Pamela Marx, Supervising Attorney

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THE UNUSUAL SUSPECTS THEATRE COMPANY

November 29, 2011

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Los Angeles City Council

200 North Spring Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(Sent via facsimile or email)

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the "daytime curfew" (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of *The Unusual Suspects Theatre Company*, we would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

The Unusual Suspects Theatre Company mentors hundreds of at-risk youth throughout the City of Los Angeles. LAMC 45.04 makes it incredibly difficult to serve the youth who need our services the most by putting undue financial and emotional pressure on them and their families. To provide life-changing services to these youth we need the obstacles that keep them out of school and out of programs like ours to be removed, not increased.

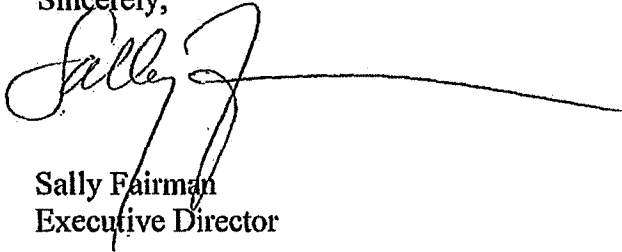
The current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don't work – they do not reduce crime and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed.

The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources to end the criminalization of tardiness and truancy.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,



Sally Fairman
Executive Director

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**Violence Prevention Coalition
of Greater Los Angeles**

February 7, 2012

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Aurora Molina
Children's Institute

Ellen Sanchez
Violence Intervention
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Harold Factor
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Foundation

Henry Sandoval
Youth Justice Coalition

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Department

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(Sent via facsimile)

Councilmember Bernard Parks
Bernard.Parks, Jr.@lacity.org
Facsimile: 213-485-7683

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

I am writing in strong support of your motion to amend the "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of the Violence Prevention Coalition of Greater Los Angeles, we would like to thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

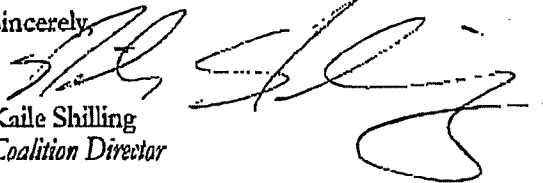
As Director of the Violence Prevention Coalition – an organization representing seventy agencies and their thousands of clients across Los Angeles County, we are constantly working with community-based organizations, law enforcement, and public officials in an effort to improve the safety of our communities, and improve the lives of our young people. Our members have come out in favor of this amendment as an effective, prevention-based approach that can have a significant impact.

The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don't work – they do not reduce crime – and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed out of school early and become more susceptible to becoming involved in delinquent behavior.

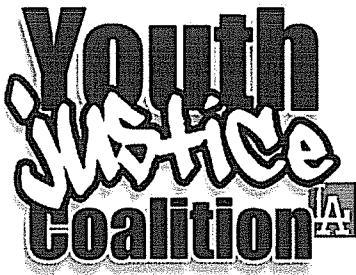
The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04. There are many reasons why students are late or absent, including delays with public transportation, family problems, school struggles, illness, or even the need to walk a little sister or brother to a different school with the same start time. The common sense amendments in this critical motion will stop unnecessarily penalization of students who are trying to get to school, even if they are late, ensure that families do not suffer undue financial hardships, and help minimize court involvement by instead connecting children to resources to become productive residents of Los Angeles.

We support the amendment to LAMC 45.04 because it will improve public safety and reduce unnecessary contact between young people and the justice system. Most importantly, it protects and supports Los Angeles' most cherished residents and most valuable resource: our youth.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Sincerely,

Kaile Shilling
Coalition Director

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Tammy Bang Luu, Associate Director Labor/Community Strategy Center, facsimile 213-387-3500



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November 26, 2011

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Los Angeles City Council

200 North Spring Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Strong Support for Motion to Amend LAMC 45.04

Dear Council Members Cardenas and Parks:

We are writing in strong support of your motion to amend the "daytime curfew" law (LAMC Section 45.04), which has proved to be detrimental to students and their families and a failure in increasing community safety. On behalf of the entire membership of the Youth Justice Coalition, thank you for your leadership on this critically important issue.

As you know, the Youth Justice Coalition represents youth who have been directly involved in the juvenile and criminal court systems, detention and incarceration. For nearly all of us, our push into the system began with our push out of school. Truancy tickets, sweeps and the resulting disciplinary actions resulting from harsh and ineffective attendance policies have impacted hundreds of YJC members, and have led to crippling fines, inability of some youth to get driver's licenses, violation and lock-up for youth on Probation, and even drops in school attendance or leaving school all together to avoid further ticketing. As you know, policies that were intended to improve student success have actually discouraged youth from completing school and severely impacted their future higher education and employment opportunities.

Unbelievably, in all the experiences our members have had with curfew tickets, no one was ever asked by a police officer or school official why they were late. Common reasons include late or slow bus schedules, crowded buses that pass students by, having to take younger siblings to school, working late nights or early mornings to help support families, problems at home, a lack of safe passage to and from school that causes youth to deal with everything from bullying, theft and banging on their own, or alcohol or other substance abuse issues.

Particularly given the reasons that youth are late to school, the current daytime curfew law is ineffective, wasteful and unfairly targets all students and in particular students of color. The latest statistics reveal that police officers have issued more than 47,000 tickets between 2005 through 2009 with a disproportionate share going to African American and Latino students. Students who receive curfew tickets miss additional school, sometimes two or three days, to attend mandatory court hearings and the schools themselves lose critical Average Daily Attendance (ADA) funding for those missed days. Just as importantly, research unequivocally confirms that curfew statutes don't work – they do not reduce crime -

-- and when we involve students with juvenile court, they are almost four times as likely to be pushed.

The law hits families with low-incomes the hardest, forcing them to make hard choices to not pay for the basics – like food for the family – to pay the hefty fines of \$250 or more per ticket. As such, the undue financial hardship on thousands of families in the City of Los Angeles clearly points to the need for reform to amend LAMC 45.04.

We strongly urge the Los Angeles City Council to pass this motion.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kim McGill
Lead Organizer

Maritza Galvez
Youth Chairperson
Board of Directors

cc: Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor@lacity.org, facsimile: (213) 978-0750
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