COMMUNICATION

TO: LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL
FROM: COUNCILMEMBER RICHARD ALARCÓN, CHAIR
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

COMMUNICATION FROM CHAIR, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE relative to the City’s position on Legislative actions ensuring corporations are not entitled to the protections or "rights" of human beings.

Recommendation for Council action, as initiated by Resolution (Garcetti - Rosendahl - Krekorian), SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE MAYOR:

RESOLVE to include in the City’s 2011-12 Federal and State Legislative Programs, SUPPORT for a Constitutional Amendment and other legislative actions ensuring that only human beings, not corporations, are endowed with constitutional rights and that money is not speech, and therefore the expenditure of corporate money to influence the electoral process is no longer a form of constitutionally protected speech.

Fiscal Impact Statement: None submitted by the Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA). The City Administrative Officer has not completed a financial analysis of this report.

Community Impact Statement: None submitted.

SUMMARY

On November 2, 2011, the Intergovernmental Relations Committee Chair considered a CLA report and Resolution (Garcetti - Rosendahl - Krekorian) relative to the City’s position on Legislative actions ensuring corporations are not entitled to the entirety of protections or "rights" of human beings, specifically so that the expenditure of corporate money to influence the electoral process is no longer a form of constitutionally protected speech.

During the discussion of this matter, CLA staff provided an overview of this matter. After providing an opportunity for public comment, the Committee Chair recommended that Council approve the amendments that were recommended by the public and read into the record to include support for a Constitutional Amendment and other legislative actions ensuring that only human beings, not corporations, are endowed with constitutional rights and that money is not speech, and therefore the expenditure of corporate money to influence the electoral process is no longer a form of constitutionally protected speech. This matter is now forwarded to Council for its consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

COUNCILMEMBER RICHARD ALARCÓN, CHAIR
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

MEMBER VOTE
ALARCÓN: YES
WESSON: ABSENT
ME 11-0002-S123_rpt_igr_11-30-11

Not Official Until Council Acts