

RESOLUTION

RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before the State Assembly is AB 202 (Donnelly) which would authorize school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to use general purpose funds to provide training to "school marshals;" and

WHEREAS, the bill would define a school marshal as a school employee who, in accordance with the Gun-Free School Zone Act of 1995 and pursuant to locally adopted policies, is authorized to possess a firearm at a schoolsite or designated school activities; and

WHEREAS, it is a fallacy to suggest that our classrooms and communities would be safer with loaded firearms in close proximity to children as young as those who attend elementary school; and

WHEREAS, such a "school marshal" program would increase risks to police officers responding to incidents at schools, and would complicate law enforcement's ability to distinguish armed suspects from armed "marshals;" and

WHEREAS, AB 202 would likely result in higher rates of violence and death in classrooms, in the event that a violent individual approaches a school campus and a crossfire occurs; and

WHEREAS, the only appropriate use of firearms to respond to acts of violence on school campuses should be by police officers; and

WHEREAS, our teachers and school administrators should spend their time, energy and resources on educating our children, rather than training to become armed security guards; and

WHEREAS, this new program would be initiated without any new state funding for schools, at a time that our state already drastically under-funds public education;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2013-2014 State Legislative Program, OPPOSITION to AB 202 (Donnelly) which would allow and encourage loaded firearms to be installed in classrooms throughout Los Angeles and California.

ORIGINAL

Presented by: Paul Kerkorian
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