

RESOLUTION

Earned Income Tax Credit Awareness Day

13-0064

WHEREAS, insufficient income contributes to many of the social and human service needs in our state; and,

WHEREAS, the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) provides tax relief and income support to low-income working families; and,

WHEREAS, the EITC lifts millions of individuals out of poverty each year in the United States by supporting work and self-sufficiency while reducing the need for public assistance; and,

WHEREAS, each year, the EITC is earned by approximately 284,000 households in California, bringing more than \$347 million into California's economy; and,

WHEREAS, every year 800,000 California families who qualify for the EITC fail to apply for the credit, often due to lack of awareness of the credit, which represents a loss of \$ 1.2 billion across the state in lost income for local communities; and,

WHEREAS, increasing the use of EITC by qualified residents of the City of Los Angeles would help stimulate our local economy and increase access to millions of dollars in income; and,

WHEREAS, every resident earning less than \$51,000 a year may qualify for up to \$5,891 in EITC which can be used to lower their taxes or increase their tax refund; and,

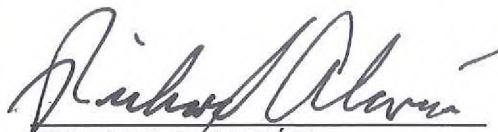
WHEREAS, increasing EITC utilization represents a highly cost-effective economic development strategy:


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Los Angeles does hereby proclaim January 25, 2013 as Earned Income Tax Credit Awareness Day; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Los Angeles does hereby encourage each city department that serves low-income households and members of the public that may qualify for free tax preparation and the EITC, such as the Community Development Department, the Library Department, the Los Angeles Housing Department, the Department of Recreation and Parks, and the Department of Water and Power, to continue their efforts in collaboration with public and private outreach campaigns to promote the availability of the Federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and local Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites where filers may receive free assistance in completing their taxes, such as those available at every city Family Source Center, as well as the I-Can-E-File dedicated computer at each of our City of Los Angeles libraries; and

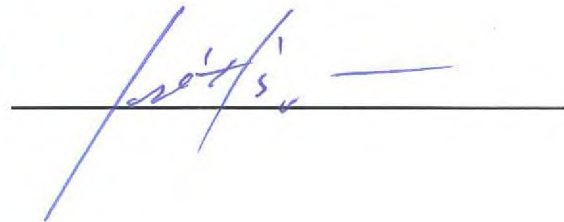
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Los Angeles join the California State Board of Equalization, Franchise Tax Board, Internal Revenue Service and Jerome E. Horton, Chairman to the California State Board of Equalization in advocating the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program to qualified families and individuals.

PRESENTED BY:


RICHARD ALARCÓN
Councilmember, 7th District


JOE BUSCAINO
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

JAN 16 2013