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PUBLIC SAFETY

MOTION

In 2005, Florida became the first state to enact Jessica's Law, which prohibits registered sex offenders from living within a specified distance from schools, parks, and other areas where children commonly gather. In 2006, California voters approved Jessica's Law in the form of Proposition 83, which prohibits registered sex offenders from residing within 2,000 feet of parks and schools. Proposition 83 also authorizes local jurisdictions in California to adopt more restrictive distance requirements than the 2,000 feet restriction.

A total of 42 states have enacted some variation of the law placing residency restrictions on registered sex offenders. However, the types of restrictions and criteria under which they apply vary from state to state. Further, in California, the ability of cities to enact more restrictive distance requirements has translated to a variance in the distance restrictions from city to city.

In Los Angeles, enforcement is an essential component of ensuring public safety and compliance with the residency restrictions placed on sex offenders. The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) has the Registration Enforcement and Compliance Team (REACT) in addition to other units which monitor sex offenders and compliance with all applicable laws. The LAPD has indicated that such efforts are impacted not only by state law under Proposition 83 but also at the local level through the enactment of more restrictive distance requirements by surrounding cities. In consideration of options to further enhance the LAPD's monitoring and enforcement ability, the Council should review the current strategies in use and the impacts of existing laws.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Police Department be instructed to report on the current enforcement standards regarding registered sex offenders, the level of Department resources devoted to enforcement and compliance efforts, how Los Angeles is impacted by the residency restrictions under Proposition 83 and neighboring cities, and potential recommendations to strengthen the City's monitoring and enforcement ability.

PRESENTED BY



JOE BUSCAINO
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY



ORIGINAL

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