14-0002-5100

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to 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 in Congress is a bill, HR 5606 (Honda) to require homemade firearms to have serial numbers and to ensure that homemade firearms are subject to the same safeguards as guns made by licensed manufacturers; and

WHEREAS, this legislation would ensure that regulations and safeguards already in place for firearm purchases extend to weapons that are self-assembled or manufactured at home; and

WHEREAS, the laws should be the same for a gun being purchased as for a gun made at home; our system of background checks and registrations are in place to ensure public safety and there is no reason these checks and registrations should apply to guns made by a licensed manufacturer, but not apply to other, equally dangerous, weapons; and

WHEREAS, this legislation responds to recent crimes and violent actions involving the use of homemade firearms, including a deadly bank robbery this July in Stockton, CA that left three dead, and the mass shooting in Santa Monica, CA last June at the hands of John Zawahri; and

WHEREAS, this legislation also responds to the growing black market for homemade firearms, as seen in recent federal investigations and raids that have led to the seizure of large stockpiles of illegal weapons; and

WHEREAS, gun safety experts point to the growing popularity of incomplete lower receivers, which are easily purchased and converted into functioning firearms, and the emergence of additive manufacturing (3D printing) to produce firearms, as two major factors that have led to concerns about the increasing supply of untraceable firearms in circulation; and

WHEREAS, firearms that are homemade are currently not required to bear serial numbers or unique markings, making them impossible to trace back to perpetrators when used in the commission of a crime; and there are also currently no federal background check requirements in place, such as those that apply to firearms purchases, to keep homemade firearms out of the hands of prohibited persons; and

WHEREAS, this legislation has been endorsed by the Violence Policy Center, and the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence and its California chapters, which have indicated that emerging technologies, like 3D printed guns, are largely unregulated and have been deemed a threat by law enforcement and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms; and

WHEREAS, this bill will ensure that homemade firearms are subject to the same safeguards as guns made by licensed manufacturers; currently the parts needed to build an untraceable homemade gun are readily available at gun shows and on the Internet — homemade guns should be subject to the same laws that apply to all other new firearms;

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 Federal Legislative Program support for HR 5606 (Honda) to require homemade firearms to have serial numbers and to ensure that homemade firearms are subject to the same safeguards as guns made by licensed manufacturers.

OCT - 1 2014

PRESENTED BY:

BERNARD C. PARKS Councilman, 8th District

SECONDED BY: M.L.