

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA

HOLLY L. WOLCOTT  
Interim City Clerk



ERIC GARCETTI  
MAYOR

Office of the  
CITY CLERK

Council and Public Services  
Room 395, City Hall  
Los Angeles, CA 90012  
General Information - (213) 978-1133  
Fax: (213) 978-1040

SHANNON HOPPE  
Council and Public Services  
Division

[www.cityclerk.lacity.org](http://www.cityclerk.lacity.org)

When making inquiries relative to  
this matter, please refer to the  
Council File No.

February 28, 2014

To All Interested Parties:

**Chief Legislative Analyst**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the City Council adopted the action(s), as attached, under  
Council File No. 14-0002-S15, at its meeting held February 18, 2014.

City Clerk  
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cc: 8 Certified copies sent to Sacramento Representatives

Mayor's Time Stamp  
2014 FEB 19 AM 9:17  
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

City Clerk's Time Stamp  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE  
2014 FEB 19 AM 8:37  
CITY CLERK  
BY \_\_\_\_\_ DEPUTY

SUBJECT TO THE CONCURRENCE OF THE MAYOR

COUNCIL FILE NO. 14-0002-S15

COUNCIL DISTRICT \_\_\_\_\_

COUNCIL APPROVAL DATE FEBRUARY 18, 2014

RE: ESTABLISHING A CITY POSITION TO SUPPORT A MOTION WHICH WOULD REQUIRE STUDENTS TO TAKE AT LEAST ONE OF THEIR TWO DIVERSITY CLASSES IN ETHNIC/AREA STUDIES

LAST DAY FOR MAYOR TO ACT MAR 03 2014  
[10 Day Charter requirement as per Charter Section 231(h)]

**DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE - FOR MAYOR USE ONLY**

APPROVED

✓

\*DISAPPROVED

\*Transmit objections in writing pursuant to Charter Section 231 (h)

DATE OF MAYOR APPROVAL OR DISAPPROVAL 2/27/14

E. G. [Signature]  
MAYOR

RECEIVED  
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE  
2014 FEB 27 PM 4:11  
BY \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY CLERK  
DEPUTY

14-0002-515

FEB 14 2014

RESOLUTION

RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

18

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, for the past several weeks, California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA) has been engaged in a debate about the role of Ethnic Studies in the general education (G.E.) curriculum as the university considers an overhaul of G.E.; and

WHEREAS, the university is seeking a balance between expedience and quality comprehensive education; and this moment presents an opportunity to reflect on what kind of education students should have to emerge as leaders in advancing cultural intelligence as foundational; and

WHEREAS, Ethnic Studies emerged from the Black and Chicano Power movements, Third World Alliances, student organizing, and the progressive awakening of the late 1960's; Ethnic Studies can be defined by the following three primary attributes:

- ▶ *Subject* - Black Studies, Chicano Studies, Latin American Studies, Asian/ Asian-American Studies and other Ethnic Studies units were established to provide intellectual space to examine the histories, cultures, experiences, struggles, and triumphs of people of color and to counter a Eurocentric curriculum.
- ▶ *Pedagogy* - Ethnic studies is rooted in a pedagogy of liberation where students become active participants in their own education rather than repositories of information, valuing, validating, incorporating and analyzing lived experiences and applied knowledge.
- ▶ *Epistemology* - Ethnic Studies was conceived by the community and born out of community struggle; it remains a community-engaged discipline which is one of the greatest tools for student success; and

WHEREAS, the inclusion of Ethnic Studies in the General Education (G.E.) curriculum advances the University mission, and by making Ethnic Studies a requirement we ensure that all students are exposed to both a knowledge base and disciplinary approach to education that prepares CSULA students for success in a rapidly changing world; and

WHEREAS, it has been firmly established that students of color perform better when their learning experiences speak to their lived experiences; a culturally relevant approach raises the level of student performance not only in the immediate classroom experience, but across their educational endeavors, raising graduation rates significantly; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before the Academic Senate is a Motion for **Ethnic Studies Requirement** which would require students to take at least one of their two diversity classes in Ethnic/Area Studies, including classes that are cross-listed with Ethnic Studies units while maintaining and refining an existing requirement;

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 SUPPORT for a Motion, currently pending in the Academic Senate of California State University, Los Angeles, which would require students to take at least one of their two diversity classes in Ethnic/Area Studies, including classes that are cross-listed with Ethnic Studies units while maintaining and refining an existing requirement.

**ADOPTED**

FEB 18 2014

LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCIL

PRESENTED BY:

*Gilbert A. Cedillo*  
GILBERT A. CEDILLO  
Councilman, 1<sup>st</sup> District

SECONDED BY:

FEB 14 2014

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TO THE MAYOR FORTHWITH

ORIGINAL