

14-0002-53

JAN 10 2014

RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

RESOLUTION

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, the Federal Communications Commission voted 3-2 on December 12, 2013 to consider lifting its long-standing ban on in-flight cell phone use, due to the fact that new technology now makes in-flight cell phone use possible without causing interference with wireless networks on the ground and with aircraft operations; and

WHEREAS, the FCC has initiated a public comment period on specific proposed rules that would allow individual commercial airline companies to install equipment that would permit their passengers to make calls and otherwise use mobile communications services while airborne above 10,000 feet; and

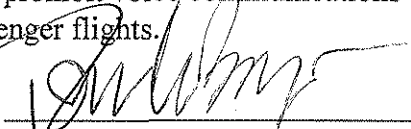
WHEREAS, many cell phone owners have expressed support and enthusiasm for the ability to use their cell phones while flying onboard a commercial aircraft, many other cell phone owners and others have expressed strong objections to in-flight cell phone use by commercial airline passengers based on concerns for public safety and public privacy; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 3676 (Shuster) and S. 1811 (Alexander) have been introduced in response to the proposed FCC ruling to continue to ban cell phone conversations on commercial airline flights or to modify the proposed FCC ruling to prohibit voice communications (but perhaps not to prohibit texting) on cell phones while in-flight; and


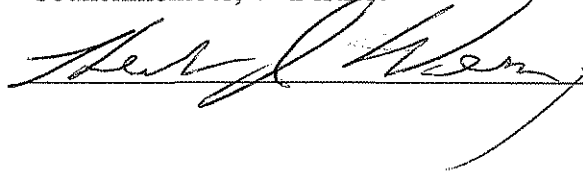
WHEREAS, cell phone conversations in the close quarters of airline passenger cabins would negatively add to ambient noise levels that can interfere with passengers' understanding of public safety and public information announcements; with passengers' desires for peaceful reading or rest; and with the general well-being of passengers and crew members while in-flight;

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 H.R. 3676, "The Prohibiting In-flight Voice Communications on Mobile Wireless Devices Act of 2013," S. 1811, "The Commercial Flight Courtesy Act," and/or similar legislation that would prohibit voice communications through mobile communication devices on commercial passenger flights.

PRESENTED BY

  
Tom LaBonge  
Councilmember, 4<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY

  
JAN 10 2014 

ORIGINAL