

# REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

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DATE: January 28, 2014

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Gerry F. Miller *Marta F. Miller* Council File No.: 14-0002-S10  
Chief Legislative Analyst Assignment No.: 14-01-0053

SUBJECT: Resolution (Bonin-Englander) to support AB 1532 (Gatto) that would increase the penalties for hit-and-run offense.

CLARECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution (Bonin-Englander) to include in the City's 2013-14 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 1532 (Gatto) that would mandate that any driver who commits a hit-and-run offense must forfeit their driver's license for six months.

## SUMMARY

On January 24, 2014, Councilmember Bonin introduced a Resolution to support AB 1532 (Gatto) that would mandate that any driver who commits a hit-and-run offense, even if the victim is not seriously injured, forfeit their driver's license for six months. Existing law penalizes a driver involved in a hit-and-run accident either through probation and/or a fine. Although law does allow for up to a six month stay in jail, this is rarely enforced. Unfortunately, the number of hit-and-run accidents are increasing in the City and the current penalties are not commensurate with the severity of these incidents. The Assemblyman states that 20,000 hit-and-run crashes are recorded by the Los Angeles Police Department annually, and according to state data, 4,000 of those result in injury or death.

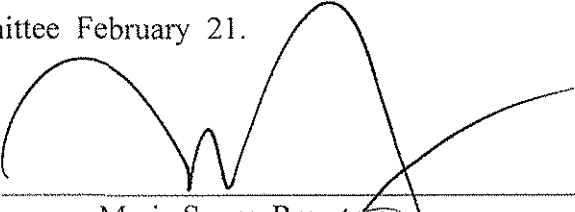
On January 21, 2014, Assemblymember Gatto introduced AB 1532. Assemblymember Gatto's legislation is his second effort to criminalize hit-and-run crashes following last year's AB 184 that extended the statute of limitations for hit and run drivers, which the City supported in an effort to help curb the epidemic of hit-and-run offenses in Southern California.

## DEPARTMENTS NOTIFIED

Department of Transportation

## BILL STATUS

Jan. 22 From printer. May be heard in committee February 21.  
Jan. 21 Read first time. To print.



Maria Souza-Rountree  
Analyst

GFM:MF:PS:msr  
Attachment: Resolution (Bonin-Englander)

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any position of the City 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 number of hit-and-run accidents are increasing in the City and the current penalties are not commensurate with the severity of these incidents; and

WHEREAS, existing law penalizes a driver involved in a hit-and-run accident either through probation and/or a fine, although law does allow for up to a six month stay in jail, but this is rarely enforced; and


WHEREAS, on January 21, 2014, Assemblymember Gatto introduced AB 1532 mandating that any driver who commits a hit-and-run offense, even if the victim is not seriously injured, forfeit their driver's license for six months; and

WHEREAS, Assemblymember Gatto's legislation is his second effort to criminalize hit-and-run crashes following last year's AB 184 that extended the statute of limitations for hit and run drivers, which the City supported in an effort to help curb the epidemic of hit-and-run offenses in Southern California; and

WHEREAS, driving a vehicle is a serious responsibility and it is imperative that drivers remain at the scene of a crash or face the serious consequence of losing their license;

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 2013-14 State Legislative Program SUPPORT of AB 1532 (Gatto) that would mandate that any driver who commits a hit-and-run offense must forfeit their driver's license for six months.

PRESENTED BY:

  
MIKE BONIN  
Councilmember, 11<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:

