

RESOLUTION RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

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 first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, the 2010 Census indicates that more than 594,000 same-sex couple households reside in California and, of that number, more than 115,000 same-sex couples have children; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of marriage equality in California has created a great need to modernize birth certificates to accurately reflect all families in the state; and

WHEREAS, birth certificates are used for identity purposes, proof of age, obtaining other forms of government identification, demonstrating eligibility for employment and paternity, and accessing health insurance; and

WHEREAS, under existing law, birth certificates currently limit the choice of parent to birth mother and father which forces some same-sex parents to inaccurately place a partner's name in the "father" and "mother" field; and

WHEREAS, on February 21, 2014, Assemblymember Jimmy Gomez introduced Assembly Bill (AB) 1951 which would require the California Department of Public Health to modify birth certificates to include a gender-neutral "parent" option in addition to the existing options of "mother" and "father"; and

WHEREAS, the passage of AB 1951 (Gomez) will protect children by accurately reflecting the identity of each of his or her parents and ensure that parents have the ability to make decisions on their child's education, healthcare, and other critical needs; and

WHEREAS, AB 1951 (Gomez), is consistent with existing City policies and practices to provide recognition and protection to same-sex couples and their families;

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 2013-14 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 1951 (Gomez), which would require the California Department of Public Health to modify birth certificates to include a gender-neutral "parent" option in addition to the existing options of "mother" and "father."

PRESENTED BY: Paul Koretz  
PAUL KORETZ  
Councilmember, 5<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: Phil O'Connell

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BMR

MAR 26 2014

ORIGINAL