

# 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 State of California is experiencing its worst measles outbreak in 20 years with at least 99 Californians infected with the contagious measles virus; and

WHEREAS, current State law allows parents to not immunize their children with one of the three allowed exemptions: medical reasons, religious beliefs or personal beliefs, which health experts have criticized as being too easy to obtain in California; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, fewer than one percent of California kindergarteners had vaccination exemptions, and by 2014, the rate of parents requesting exemptions rose to 2.5 percent which correlates with faulty published research, that has since be rescinded, proclaiming that vaccinations were dangerous for children; and

WHEREAS, Senators Richard Pan and Ben Allen have announced proposed legislation that would not allow parents to use the personal belief exemption while vaccine experts caution that removing only this exemption will cause parents to easily switch to the religious belief exemption; and

WHEREAS, herd immunity, where the majority of the population is vaccinated, is most effective when a certain high percentage of the population is immunized, and as this percentage is diminished, the more at risk the population becomes at contracting contagious diseases; and

WHEREAS, tightening vaccination laws to restrict non-medical exemptions will protect the entire population from contagious diseases, especially the most vulnerable populations including babies and children that are either too young to be vaccinated or have medical conditions that prevent them from being vaccinated;

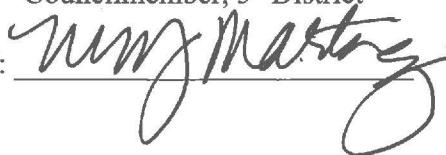
WHEREAS, the State should not allow a parent to opt out of vaccinations for any reason other than a medical exemption to protect the health and safety of California residents.

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 2015-2016 State Legislative Program SUPPORT of recent legislation to be introduced by Senators Richard Pan and Ben Allen and/or any legislative and/or administrative action that would tighten State immunization laws by restricting the exemptions available to parents to opt out of vaccinating their children.

PRESENTED BY:

  
PAUL KORETZ  
Councilmember, 5<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:



  
MAR 3 2015

ORIGINAL