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

WHEREAS, recent events across the country involving the use of force by police departments have resulted in increased calls for the deployment of body-worn cameras by police agencies, in an effort to increase transparency; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles recently announced that it will be purchasing and deploying 7,000 body-worn cameras on officers across the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, these cameras, while an important addition to a police officer's toolkit, represent a significant cost to local jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, on December 3, 2014, President Obama announced that he would ask that federal funding be allocated to local jurisdictions for the purchase of body-worn cameras for police officers; and

WHEREAS, the President stated that any grant program for body-worn cameras would require matching funds from state or local agencies; and

WHEREAS, AB 65 (Alejo) would transfer funds from the state's General Fund to the California Department of Justice to establish a grant program to help local jurisdictions meet the federal match requirements; and

WHEREAS, AB 65 would enable the City of Los Angeles to purchase body-worn cameras with a lower fiscal impact to the City's budget; and

WHEREAS, AB 65 would encourage more local jurisdictions in California to purchase body-worn cameras, increasing transparency and accountability for police departments;

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 for AB 65 (Alejo), which would establish a grant program for the purpose of matching federal funds available to local law enforcement entities to purchase bodyworn cameras and related equipment.

PRESENTED BY

CURREN D. PRICE, JR.

Councilmember, 9th District

SECONDED BY

jwd