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, Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), often referred to as drones, have become more popular with hobbyists over recent years; and

WHEREAS, recently, firefighters have reported seeing drones flying near wildfire locations across the United States; and

WHEREAS, drones being operated over wildfires pose a threat to the safety of aircrews of manned firefighting aircraft, as a collision in midair with a drone can cause significant damage to manned aircraft; and

WHEREAS, due to the threat to firefighter safety posed by drones flying over wildfires, fire departments across the United States have been forced to stop or postpone air drops on fires, severely hampering fire suppression efforts; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 3025 (Cook) would make it a federal crime to launch a drone near a wildfire that threatens the real or personal property of the United States government, or a federal agency or department; and

WHEREAS, under H.R. 3025, an individual who uses a drone to recklessly interfere with fire suppression efforts would be fined and/or imprisoned for not more than five years; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 3025 would protect firefighters from the dangers posed by recklessly piloted drones near wildfires;

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 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for H.R. 3025 (Cook), the Wildfire Airspace Protection Act of 2015, which would make it a crime to launch a drone in a place near a wildfire that threatens the real or personal property of the United States or any federal department or agency, if the drone interferes with firefighting efforts.

PRESENTED BY: _____

HERB J. WESSON, JR.
Councilmember, 10th District

PRESENTED BY: _____

MITCHELL ENGLANDER
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY: _____

AUG 5 2015

jwd