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

WHEREAS, the Stop Tobacco Access to Kids Enforcement Act (STAKE Act) requires distributors and retailers of tobacco cigarettes to post notices that the sale of tobacco products to minors is illegal; in addition, the Cigarette and Tobacco Products Licensing Act requires the State Board of Equalization to license manufacturers, importers, distributors, wholesalers, and retailers of cigarettes and tobacco products; and

WHEREAS, existing law also permits enforcing agencies to assess civil penalties for violations of the STAKE Act; and

WHEREAS, SB 24 (Hill) would require that retailers apply for a license to sell electronic cigarettes beginning on April 15, 2016, and to display the license at each retailer location beginning on June 30, 2016.

WHEREAS, SB 24 (Hill) would not invalidate existing local government ordinances relative to the sale or distribution of electronic cigarettes and would allow local governments to adopt additional ordinances which are more restrictive than State Law; and

WHEREAS, SB 24 (Hill) would subject retailers to civil and criminal penalties for failure to post a notice stating that the sale of electronic cigarettes to minors is illegal; and

WHEREAS, this bill would help eliminate the illegal purchase and consumption of tobacco products and electronic cigarettes by minors; and

WHEREAS, support of SB 24 (Hill) is consistent with past City actions relative to the sale and distribution of electronic cigarettes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that upon the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-16 State Legislative Program support of SB 24 (Hill), which would extend Stop Tobacco Access to Kids Enforcement Act (STAKE Act) provisions concerning tobacco products to the sale of electronic cigarettes.

PRESENTED BY:

BERNARD C. PARKS Councilmember, 8th District

SECONDED BY

BMR