MOTION

On May 26, 2015, the U.S. Supreme Court announced it would hear arguments in the case *Evenwel v. Abbott*, which was dismissed by a Texas district court. In the case, Plaintiffs challenge the "one person one vote" provision, whereby federal, state, and local electoral districts are drawn to divide the total population of the jurisdiction equally. Plaintiffs argue that drawing districts using the total population, which includes non-voting immigrants, felons, and young people under the voting age, results in widely varying proportions of eligible voters in districts that have relatively similar population sizes.

This case could have wide ranging implications on how districts are drawn nationwide. Drawing districts only based on eligible voters smothers the voice of communities that make America the melting pot of the world. While they cannot vote, these communities still have a right to express themselves and be represented at the local, state, and federal levels of government.

Immediate action is needed for the City of Los Angeles to join in this lawsuit by filing an *amicus* brief to the Supreme Court protecting the "one person one vote" provision to continue the practice of drawing districts by total population to ensure that all Los Angeles residents' voices are heard.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Attorney be requested, authorized and directed, as appropriate, to file an *amicus* brief to the Supreme Court in the matter of *Evenwel v. Abbott*, to protect the "one person one vote" provision to continue the practice of drawing districts by total population.

GILBERT A. CEDILLO Councilmember, 1st District

PRESENTED BY:

SECONDED BY:

JUN 2 6 2015