

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, with the passage of Proposition 64 by the voters of California in November 2016, recreational cannabis use by adults is now legal in the State; and

WHEREAS, while cannabis use by adults is legal, it is still prohibited by current law for those under the age of 21 who do not have a medical recommendation; and

WHEREAS, an individual who is over 18 years old, but not yet 21 years old who is in possession of not more than 28.5 grams of marijuana or 4 grams of concentrated cannabis can be found guilty of an infraction and fined not more than \$100; and

WHEREAS, minority youth, in particular young black men, are more likely to be cited for cannabis possession than their peers; and

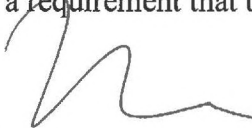
WHEREAS, paying a fine may be difficult for many young people, which could lead to them being assessed additional fines and putting them in further contact with the justice system; and

WHEREAS, a more fair and equitable system which diverts people from the courts and into community service should be enacted for young people found in possession of cannabis; and

WHEREAS, requirements for community service and youth education programs instead of criminal fines will ensure that young people are not placed in negative contact with the justice system;

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 2017 - 2018 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for and/or SPONSORSHIP of legislation which would amend California Health & Safety Code § 11357(a)(2) to change the punishment for the possession of less than 28.5 grams of marijuana or 4 grams of concentrated cannabis by a person over 18 years of age but not yet 21 years of age from a maximum \$100 fine and replace it with a requirement to perform not more than 10 hours of community service and a requirement that the person cited for possession participate in a Youth and Safety program.

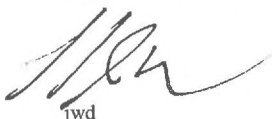
PRESENTED BY:


MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON
Councilmember, 8th District

SECONDED BY:



AUG 18 2017


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