

REVISED RECOMMENDATION

RESOLUTION

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 government 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, on April 29, 1992, the trial of Los Angeles Police Department officers charged with assault and use of excessive force in connection with the arrest of Rodney King, ended with the jury acquitting all four on the assault charge, and acquitting three and deadlocking on one officer on excessive force charges, and following the announcement of the verdicts, the residents of Los Angeles, especially in the African American community, expressed outrage; and

WHEREAS, the riot involved looting and arson in the south and central parts of Los Angeles, and had a devastating impact on African American, Korean American, and Latino communities and business owners, and by May 4, 1992, 53 people had lost their lives, 2,400 were injured and 12,000 were arrested with an estimated \$1 billion in property damage from fires, theft, and vandalism having occurred; and

WHEREAS, in the ensuing 25 years, Los Angeles has rebuilt and grown into one of the most diverse major cities in the country, with over 220 languages spoken by residents, hailing from more than 140 countries, and the Los Angeles Police Department has undergone significant reforms and became a national model of constitutional policing; and

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2015, Council President Herb J. Wesson, Jr. and Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell co-authored, and Councilmembers David Ryu and Marqueece Harris-Dawson seconded, Council File No. 15-0840 on "City of Los Angeles Citizens / Engage in Conversations and Activities / Race, Ethnicity, Sexual Orientation, Diversity, Multiculturalism" which led to the creation of the embRACE LA program under the direction of the City Council and Human Relations Commission, Department of Cultural Affairs and the Los Angeles Police Department; and

WHEREAS, embRACE LA is design to educate, engage and empower residents to champion equity, inclusion and justice in their own communities; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2016, Council President Herb J. Wesson, Councilmember David E. Ryu and Councilmember Curren D. Price Jr. co-authored, and Councilmembers Gil Cedillo and Jose Huizar seconded Council File No. 16-1317, creating an Ad Hoc Committee on Immigrant Affairs and Civil Rights to oversee immigrant affairs, monitor the impact of federal legislation, identify opportunities to support and protect our most vulnerable residents, and ensure the values of equality, empathy, inclusivity and justice are upheld; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles and Angelenos throughout the region have made tremendous strides – civically, culturally and politically – over the last 25 years, paving a road for continued cooperation, engagement, and community building in the next 25.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby declares SUPPORT for the Joint Statement of Unity to commemorate 4/29/1992 dated April 2017 in Los Angeles, California.

Date: 4/28/17
Submitted in Rules Committee
Council File No.: 17-0002-S65
Item No.: 13
~~By:~~ Communication from
Council President Wesson