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, current law prohibits hunters from equipping hunting dogs with GPS devices and with so called "treeing switches" that trigger a remote signal when a hunting dog lifts its head towards an animal it traps in a tree; and

WHEREAS, the California Fish and Game Commission will be meeting on December 6, 2017 to consider a change to its regulations to allow hunters to use GPS-equipped dog collars and treeing switches for dogs used to pursue mammals or for dog training; and

WHEREAS, allowing hunters to use this technology is contrary to fair chase and ethical hunting standards due to lack of engagement by the dog's handlers, essentially eliminating any semblance of 'sport' or hunting in their activities, since hunters may now sit in their vehicles remotely tracking their unsupervised dogs, eventually driving to the GPS-identified location when one of their dogs triggers the tree switch and shoot the animal trapped in the tree; and

WHEREAS, any action by the California Fish and Game Commission authorizing the use of this equipment will inevitably increase the use of unsupervised hunting dogs in California, many of which are untrained and all of which are unable to distinguish which animals can be legally hunted at the time of their chase, thereby further endangering protected wildlife; and

WHEREAS, authorizing the use of GPS devices and tree switches could also result in increased illegal poaching of wildlife given the remote nature of wildlife hunting that will be enabled through the use of these devices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby include in its 2017-2018 State Legislative Program OPPOSITION to proposed regulations currently under consideration by the California Department of Fish & Game that would allow the use of GPS-equipped dog collars and treeing switches for dogs in the hunting and taking of mammals) or for dog training.

PRESENTED BY:

Paul Koretz

Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:

DEC 1 2017