MOTION

The City of Los Angeles, with its great cosmopolitan and diverse population, must establish public policy that promotes understanding and compassion between and among communities, and that discourages discrimination, prejudice, intolerance and bigotry that denies equal treatment to any individual because of the individual's race, color, ethnicity, creed, age, national origin, citizenship status or perceived status, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation or perceived orientation, disability, marital status, partnership status, employment status or source of income.

The City of Los Angeles has benefited, and will continue to benefit from the economic, cultural, and educational contributions of a wide range of minority groups and marginalized communities who are often targets of abuse and discrimination. The City of Los Angeles has a duty to protect and promote public health and safety within its boundaries and to protect its residents against discrimination, threats and retaliation based on a real or perceived status. Such discriminatory and prejudicial practices pose a substantial threat to the health, safety and welfare of the community.

In order to encourage equal treatment, and protect all Angelenos from discrimination, intolerance and bigotry, the City of Los Angeles must establish a Civil and Human Rights law that prohibits discrimination by individuals and corporations in employment, housing, medical services, businesses, and other establishments. The proposed law must provide remedies easily accessible to victims of discrimination and include severe penalties to discourage the exploitation of and discrimination against the City's residents.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council request the City Attorney, with assistance from the City's Immigrant Affairs and Civil Rights Advocate, Office of the Chief Legislative Analyst, and any other City department as necessary, to prepare and present a draft Civil and Human Rights Ordinance that: 1) prohibits discrimination, prejudice, intolerance and bigotry that results in denial of equal treatment of any individual; 2) provides remedies accessible to complainants; and 3) creates the City of Los Angeles Civil and Human Rights Commission and any other supporting unit to investigate and enforce violations of the proposed ordinance.

PRESENTED BY:

HERB J. WESSON, JR

Councilmember, 10th District

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