

RULES, ELECTIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS  
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 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**, Section 6(o) of the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 limits the amount of time a "able-bodied adult without dependents" (ABAWD) can receive assistance from the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), otherwise known as "food stamps" and,

**WHEREAS**, on the request of a State agency administering SNAP benefits, the USDA may waive the time limit in areas with an unemployment rate of over 10 percent in a 12 month period or 20 percent in a 24 month period; and

**WHEREAS**, existing law also allows for a limited annual number of discretionary waivers that may be rolled over into following years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Trump administration has proposed rules changes affecting the SNAP program including broad-based categorical eligibility changes which would result in loss of benefits for 3.1 million people throughout the country; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 5, 2019, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) released a final rule change which would require States to utilize Bureau of Labor data for waiver approvals, add a floor of 6 percent to the existing 20 percent standard, and set a limit on the carryover of unused state discretionary exemptions; and

**WHEREAS**, the rule will be effective beginning April 2020, resulting in approximately 700,000 individuals losing their benefits, not including the benefits endangered by other rule changes; and,

**WHEREAS**, this rule change will increase the financial burden and increase food insecurity of vulnerable individuals, this misguided policy must be challenged;

**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 2019-2020 Federal Legislative Program OPPOSITION to USDA's final rule change which would require States to utilize Bureau of Labor data for waiver approvals, add a floor of 6 percent to the existing 20 percent standard, and set a limit on the carryover of unused state discretionary exemptions.

PRESENTED BY: 

DAVID RYU

Councilmember, 4<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

DEC 11 2019

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