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, existing law designates specific days as holidays in the State of California on which community colleges and public schools are required to close; and

WHEREAS, existing law entitles State employees, with specified exceptions, to be given time off with pay for specified holidays; and

WHEREAS, on the days of statewide general elections, individuals who are eligible to vote are often limited to exercise their ability to vote due to occupational or educational commitments when polls are open; and

WHEREAS, AB 177 (Low) would add the day on which a statewide general election is held, which is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of any even-numbered year, to the designated list of holidays that would 1) require community colleges and public schools to close, and 2) require that state employees, with specified exceptions, be given time off with pay; and

WHEREAS, adding the day on which a statewide general election is held to the list of Staterecognized holidays would increase political engagement through participation in the civic process by ensuring that all voters will have time to vote on Election Day; and

WHEREAS, thirteen states have made Election Day a paid holiday for state employees in order to increase voter turnout at the polls;

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 State Legislative Program support for AB 177 (Low) which would add the day on which a statewide general election is held, which is the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of any even-numbered year, to the State-designated list of holidays, and require that 1) community colleges and public schools be closed, and 2) state employees, with specified exceptions, be given time off with pay for days on which a statewide general election is held.

PRESENTED BY:

HERB J. WESSON, JR.

Councilmember, 10th District

SECONDED BY:

FEB 1 3 2019