During the last several years, deforestation of the Amazon Rainforest has been growing at an alarming pace. Deforestation has been especially high in Brazil where the government has scaled back environmental laws and weakened federal oversight of protected areas. Along with deforestation, appalling murders of Indigenous peoples who live in and protect the rainforests have been committed with impunity.

The Brazilian government has promoted increased logging of the Amazon Rainforest and the burning and clearing of the land for ranching and farming. The timber, crops and animal products derived from the deforested Rainforest are being purchased by large global and American-based firms for sale in the marketplace to unwitting consumers.

These practices, and the activities of global and American-based firms, have led to a 90% increase in deforestation in less than a year. If this trend continues, the Amazon Rainforest will be irreparably harmed, exacerbating climate change challenges throughout the world.

It is critical that deforestation of the Amazon Rainforest and the murders of its Indigenous Peoples be halted immediately.

To assist this effort, the City should eliminate the purchase of any product derived from deforestation of the Amazon Rainforest. In addition, the City should not enter into contracts with corporations that are involved in deforestation of the Amazon Rainforest.

In this manner, the City can play a proactive role in protecting the Amazon Rainforest and ensuring its health and welfare for generations to come.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Sanitation and the Chief Procurement Officer, in conjunction with the Department of General Services, be instructed/requested to report to the Council in 45 days on policies and procedures the City can implement to eliminate the purchase of products, for City-use, derived from deforestation of the Amazon Rainforest.

I FURTHER MOVE that these entities report to the Council on policies and procedures the City can implement to eliminate contracting with, investing in, or otherwise doing business with firms that engage in deforestation of the Amazon Rainforest.

PRESENTED BY: Paul Koretz
Councilmember, 5th District

PRESENTED BY: David Ryu
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: Blumenfield

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