

**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**, the garment manufacturing industry is a notable employment sector in the state, and has been historically prone to practices that include wage theft and unsafe working conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, AB 633, the Garment Worker Protection Act, was enacted to protect workers from abusive practices but its protections have been consistently challenged by circumventions, allowing manufacturers to avoid legal liability; and

**WHEREAS**, these issues have left vulnerable, low-income, and often undocumented workers without protection in an industry consistently found by studies to pay below minimum wage and provide sub-standard working conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has reduced employment opportunities and further exposed garment workers to the risks of wage-theft, as employers lay off workers and fail to compensate them for labor they have already provided; and

**WHEREAS**, even workers who were able to retain their employment through the production of masks, in violation of statewide social distancing orders, continue to work under increased risk for exposure to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, currently pending before the California State Assembly is SB 1399 (Durazo) which would provide protections for garment workers, including prohibiting the practice of piece-rate compensation and requiring garment manufacturers and contractors to jointly share legal responsibility for their workers; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill would additionally expand the definition of garment manufacturing, and provide several other protections, including the guarantee of payment for unpaid wages, overtime pay, and compensation for break premiums and other similar penalties; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 1399 would restore the promise and intent of the Garment Worker Protection Act, ensuring that these critical, low-wage workers are protected and are able to earn a living wage; and

**WHEREAS**, the California State Senate has already passed this critical measure and it is incumbent on the City of Los Angeles to advocate for the bill and hold employers accountable for, and protect the well-being of, garment workers;

**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 SB 1399 (Durazo) which would provide protections for garment workers including prohibiting the practice of piece-rate compensation and requiring garment manufacturers and contractors to jointly share legal responsibility for their workers.

PRESENTED BY:

  
GILBERT CEDILLO  
Councilmember, 1st District

**JUL 1 2020**

SECONDED BY:

NURY MARTINEZ(verbal)  
Councilmember, 6th District