

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 carotid restraint is one of the most commonly used strangleholds. To perform this hold, a peace officer applies pressure on either side of the windpipe—but not on the windpipe itself—to slow or stop the flow of blood to the brain via the carotid arteries; and

WHEREAS, while designed to render subjects unconscious, this hold can go wrong in two main ways: either when improperly applied, or when a subjects' physical disposition—if they suffers from coronary artery disease, for example—makes the hold dangerous or lethal. Simply maintaining restricted blood flow for one minute after the suspect is rendered unconscious can lead to irreversible brain damage; and

WHEREAS, with the high profile death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, where a peace officer used his knee to subdue and detain him, it is clear that similar methods of restraining suspects are incredibly risky and should no longer be allowed; and

WHEREAS, Police Departments in several major cities such as San Diego and Los Angeles have already taken steps to prohibit their use but statewide policies regarding neck restraints can vary greatly between departments, which results in a lack of accountability for officers who use them; and

WHEREAS, AB 1196 (Gipson) will create a uniform statewide policy on carotid restraints and ensure that this procedure can no longer be improperly applied on Californians;

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 into its 2019-2020 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for AB 1196 (Gipson) which will create a uniform statewide policy on carotid restraints and ensure that this procedure can no longer be improperly applied in California.

PRESENTED BY: _____
CURREN D. PRICE, JR.
Councilmember, 9th District

SECONDED BY: _____