MOTION

The Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services provides foster services to over 30,000 children in any given month. According to the National Foster Youth Institute, nationwide, only about half of foster youth finish high school and less than 3 percent graduate from college. Youth transitioning out of foster care often face numerous mental, social, and economic challenges that, when left untreated, often result in homelessness. The 2019 Homeless Count found that there are nearly 4,000 youth experiencing homelessness, with an estimated one-third of this population current or former foster youth.

The City of Los Angeles provides numerous preferences for businesses competing for City contracts, offering incentives for minority and women owned businesses, small businesses, and local businesses, to name a few. Businesses should be encouraged to employ foster youth and youth transitioning out of foster care to give these individuals work experiences that will position them for future success. The City can incentivize this practice by adding an additional preference classification to its contracting process.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Bureau of Contract Administration, with the assistance of the Economic and Workforce Development Department and the Chief Legislative Analyst, be directed to report within 60 days on the feasibility of providing a business preference for City contracts to businesses who employ foster youth and youth transitioning out of foster care.

PRESENTED BY:

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Councilwo nan, 6th District

PAUL KREKORIAN

Councilmember, 2nd District

JAN 1 4 2020

SECONDED BY:

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