

13-0002-515

RESOLUTION JAN 25 2013

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, there has recently been a rash of "swatting" incidents, where a false report is made to police departments stating that a robbery, hostage situation, or other serious crime is occurring at the home of a celebrity; and

WHEREAS, these incidents are highly dangerous and set the stage for a tragic accident, as police officers believe they are responding to a significant threat; and

WHEREAS, current penalties for making these false 911 reports to the police include up to one year in jail, but offenders could get probation and no jail time; and

WHEREAS, the current penalties do not go far enough in deterring individuals from making false 911 reports; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before the State Assembly, is a bill, AB 47 (Gatto) relative to increased penalties for false 911 reports; and

WHEREAS, Senator Lieu has announced he will introduce similar legislation in the State Senate; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would increase penalties against those who are convicted of making false 911 reports, and will more effectively combat the "swatting" trend; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles should support legislative efforts relative to false 911 reports, as these incidents tie up police resources and pose a threat to the community;

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 2013 - 2014 State Legislative Program SUPPORT of AB 47 (Gatto) and Senator Lieu's legislation, which would increase penalties for those convicted of making false 911 reports, including jail time and financial responsibility.

PRESENTED BY


MITCHELL ENGLANDER
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY




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