

13-0002-542

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 right to vote is the most fundamental way that citizens engage their government, and the integrity of voting relies on the trust that each vote cast is counted fairly; and

WHEREAS, the transparency of voting systems – the devices and systems through which votes are cast – is vital to ensure that the public can verify and trust election outcomes; and

WHEREAS, nearly all California counties have purchased their voting systems from private vendors, which limit public access to the operating system and hardware of those voting systems in order to protect their own intellectual property; and

WHEREAS, the County of Los Angeles is currently developing a voting system that will be owned and operated by the public, and that will be maintained in an open, transparent, and verifiable manner, which will increase the trust and reliability that the public can feel in its voting system; and

WHEREAS, existing state law neither encourages nor facilitates alternate models like publicly owned voting systems; and

WHEREAS, State Senator Padilla has introduced SB 360, which would explicitly allow counties to develop and own public voting systems, and would allow the California Secretary of State to approve a county developed system;

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 SB 360 (Padilla), which would increase public trust and transparency in voting systems by allowing counties to develop and own public voting systems and allowing the California Secretary of State to approve those systems.

PRESENTED BY:

Jan Perry
Councilmember, 9th District

SECONDED BY:

Bernard C. Huber

ORIGINAL