

14-0002-583

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 first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, a loophole in the law has permitted internet gambling sweepstakes to operate in a "gray area" and evade law enforcement in internet cafes that hold sweepstakes which are thinly veiled gambling operations; and

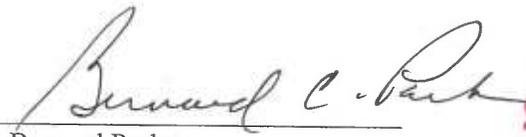
WHEREAS, some jurisdictions in the state have filed civil actions under the Unfair Competition law seeking to enjoin several Internet café businesses from continuing to engage in practices that allegedly violated the gambling prohibitions on unlawful lotteries and/or slot machines or devices and the Fifth Appellate Court of Appeals sided with Kern County public safety officials in finding that casino-style gambling cafes should be treated as gambling; and

WHEREAS, illegal sweepstakes gambling cafes are a threat to both public safety and local business, which have experienced increased crime associated with internet cafes that have exploited a loophole in the law that allows them to proliferate; and

WHEREAS, AB 1439 (Salas) enhance the ability of law enforcement to curb illegal gambling activities and associated crimes by explicitly prohibiting a business from offering electronic video monitor gambling simulations or gambling themed games that utilize a sweepstakes prize experience – without regard to whether or not the operations are using illegal slot.

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 AB 1439 which would prohibit any person, when conducting a contest or sweepstakes, from using an electronic video monitor to simulate gambling or play gambling-themed games that offers the opportunity to win sweepstakes cash, cash equivalent prizes or other prizes of value.

PRESENTED BY:



Bernard Parks
Councilmember, 8th District

SECONDED BY:



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