

14-0002-585

JUL 30 2014

RESOLUTION RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

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, "human shields" refer to the use of civilians, prisoners of war, or other noncombatants whose mere presence is designed to protect combatants and objects from attack; and

WHEREAS, the use of human shields violates international humanitarian law (also referred to as the Law of War or Law of Armed Conflict); and

WHEREAS, since June 15, 2015, there have been over 2,000 rockets fired by Hamas and other terrorist organizations from Gaza into Israel; and

WHEREAS, it has been observed that Hamas uses civilian populations as human shields by placing its underground tunnel network and missile batteries in densely populated areas; and

WHEREAS, Israel drops leaflets, makes announcements, places phone calls and sends text messages to the Palestinian people in Gaza warning them in advance of an imminent attack and goes to extraordinary lengths to target only terrorist actors yet Hamas urges residents to ignore these warnings; and

WHEREAS, Hamas, al Qaeda, Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIS) and other foreign terrorist organizations typically use innocent civilians as human shields; and

WHEREAS, currently before the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate are H. Con. Res 107 and S. Con Res. 41 which denounce the use of civilians as human shields by Hamas and other terrorist organizations in violation of humanitarian law; and

WHEREAS, opposition to the use of human shields is consistent with international law to preserve the lives of innocent bystanders in armed conflicts;

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 2013-14 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for H. Con. Res. 107 and S. Con. Res. 41 which denounce the use of civilians as human shields by Hamas and other terrorist organizations in violation of international humanitarian law.

PRESENTED BY: Paul Koretz
PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY: [Signature]

ORIGINAL

JUL 30 2014

BMR
[Signature]