

RESOLUTION

SUBSTITUTE 35

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, it is important to ensure that goods "Made in America"—including manufacturing and agricultural goods—can be shipped efficiently across our nation’s highways and railways to our ports for export, which is crucial to our nation’s continued economic success; and

WHEREAS, the surface transportation bill enacted in 2012, the "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act" (MAP-21), was successful in including provisions to start the conversation about developing a national freight transportation network; and

WHEREAS, today there are not enough funds to keep the Highway Trust Fund solvent, let alone make the necessary investment to modernize and increase the efficiency of our freight transportation network, including funding of our port infrastructure; and, if we fail to make this investment, we will lose our competitive edge and add costs to our goods; and

WHEREAS, a U.S.D.O.T. report, *Freight Transportation: Improvements and the Economy*, estimates the cost of carrying freight on the highway system to be between \$25 and \$200 an hour and further estimates that unexpected delays can increase the cost of transporting goods by 50 to 250 percent; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial for our nation to have a dedicated source of funding to keep our nation’s freight network globally competitive; and

WHEREAS, large amounts of funding, such as the Harbor Maintenance Tax (HMT), have been collected in Los Angeles but have not been returned to benefit our Port and region; and

WHEREAS, Congresswoman Janice Hahn (D-CA) has introduced H. R. 5101, the "National Freight Network Trust Fund Act of 2014," which would direct five percent (5%) of all import duties collected by Customs and Border Protection (CBP) at Ports of Entry to be deposited in a National Freight Network Trust Fund to be spent on improvements to the national freight transportation network; and

WHEREAS, H.R. 5101 would authorize the Secretary of Transportation, in accordance with the National Freight Strategic Plan, to make grants from the Trust Fund to assist any project that improves the performance of a segment of the national freight network, based on specified criteria and as proposed by a State, a regional or local transportation organization, or a port authority;

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 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for H.R. 5101 (Hahn), the "National Freight Network Trust Fund Act of 2014," which would establish a National Freight Network Trust Fund and a National Freight Network Grant Program to improve the performance of the national freight transportation network; and

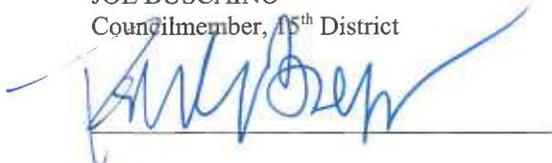
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City shall work with the author of H.R. 5101 to ensure that a strong "return to source" provision is included in the bill.

PRESENTED BY



JOE BUSCAINO  
Councilmember, 15<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY



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