

14-0337 [Signature]

RULES, ELECTIONS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

RESOLUTION [Stamp: FOR PLACEMENT ON NEXT AGENDA TO BE POSTED] MAR 18 2014 #55

WHEREAS, the city of Los Angeles is home to the largest concentration of Salvadorans outside the Republic of El Salvador, with an estimated population of one million nationals who are inextricably linked to their homeland; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Mayor of Los Angeles have recognized the important social, cultural, economic and political contributions of the Salvadoran community to the City, and are committed to working with the Salvadoran leadership in Los Angeles to improve the well being of this community; and

WHEREAS, the figure of the late Archbishop of San Salvador Monsignor Oscar A. Romero, as the ultimate pastor of the Salvadoran people, represents the moral voice against the injustices and human rights violations that led Salvadorans to flee their country and seek refuge in the United States, thus establishing this community in major cities such as the city of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the Salvadoran people, including the Salvadoran community in Los Angeles, embrace the memory of Archbishop Oscar A. Romero as a matter of national identity; and

WHEREAS, since Los Angeles became a sister city to San Salvador in January 2005, each year the Council of Los Angeles has worked with the Salvadoran community to commemorate March 24<sup>th</sup> as "The Day of Remembrance of Archbishop Oscar A. Romero;" and

WHEREAS, March 24, 2014, is a special occasion as it will mark the 34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the martyrdom of Monsignor Oscar A. Romero, and the City of Los Angeles will join the Salvadoran community in Los Angeles, and millions of followers in El Salvador and around the world to pay tribute to his life and teachings; and

WHEREAS, on November 23, 2013, the City of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles-San Salvador Sister City Committee, and the Salvadoran community unveiled the statue of Monsignor Oscar A. Romero, and inaugurated the Memorial Plaza to honor him at MacArthur Park, in the Pico Union-Westlake community; and

WHEREAS, Monsignor Oscar A. Romero's advocacy for the poor and the persecuted made him the "Voice of the Voiceless", and despite the death threats against his life in the midst of a civil war, Archbishop Romero continued his campaign for human rights; and

WHEREAS, on March 24, 1980, a group of assassins entered a small chapel in San Salvador as the Archbishop celebrated mass, and fired a single bullet into his heart, killing him; and

WHEREAS, in 1993, a United Nations Truth Commission on El Salvador found that there was "full evidence" of who participated in the crime and named those involved in the assassination of Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo A. Romero; and

WHEREAS, the Government, the Legislative Assembly, and the Supreme Court of El Salvador should bring to justice those responsible for the assassination of the Archbishop of San Salvador, Monsignor Oscar A Romero;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Los Angeles hereby proclaims March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014 as "The Day of Remembrance of Archbishop Oscar A. Romero of El Salvador" on the occasion of the 34<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his Martyrdom".

[Signature]  
MAR 18 2014

PRESENTED BY: [Signature]  
GILBERT A. CEDILLO  
Councilmember, 1<sup>st</sup> District

SECONDED BY: [Signature]

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