

MOTION

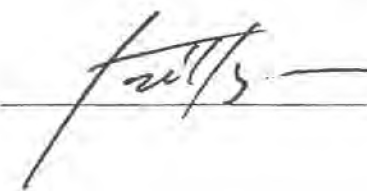
Proposition 64, also known as the Adult Use of Marijuana Act of 2016, legalized the recreational use of marijuana for adults aged 21 years or older, permitting smoking in a private home or at a business licensed for on-site marijuana consumption. As temporary and annual licenses are granted to commercial cannabis businesses, the City should pursue policies which ensure that legally licensed commercial cannabis businesses remain in compliance with the minimum age restrictions outlined in Proposition 64 when selling cannabis products.

The Tobacco Retailer's Permit Ordinance requires business establishments in the City of Los Angeles to obtain and maintain an annual permit for each fixed location where tobacco, tobacco products, or tobacco paraphernalia are sold. In order to enforce this ordinance, the City Council created the Tobacco Enforcement Program in order to discourage the sale of tobacco and tobacco-related products to minors. The City Attorney's Office, who is the responsible entity for the Tobacco Enforcement Program, investigates and prosecutes tobacco retailers who fail to obtain and maintain a permit, and conducts compliance checks that may be necessary in the investigation of these retailers. In addition to enforcement efforts, the Tobacco Enforcement Program also develops health-focused initiatives that aim to keep tobacco and tobacco-related products away from minors.

Similar to the City's concerns surrounding the sale of tobacco, the illegal sale of cannabis and cannabis-related products to minors is an urgent public health issue. As a result, in addition to the City's current enforcement efforts as it relates to commercial cannabis activity, a program or task force should be developed whereby increased compliance checks and enforcement of cannabis laws are essential components towards the reduction of illegal sales of cannabis products to minors.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council request the City Attorney, with the assistance of the Department of Cannabis Regulation and Los Angeles Police Department, to report on the feasibility of developing a cannabis enforcement program or task force, similar to the City Attorney's Tobacco Enforcement Program, that is responsible for 1) conducting compliance checks related to the sale of cannabis products, and 2) investigating and prosecuting cannabis retailers that are suspected of selling to minors.

PRESENTED BY: 
NURY MARTINEZ
Councilwoman, 6th District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL

si
MAY 15 2019

