

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

WHEREAS, in 2008, the Legislature passed SB 731 (Oropeza), which enacted new regulations for massage therapy providers, and also removed the ability of local governments to effectively regulate massage therapy businesses through local ordinances; and

WHEREAS, this led to an increase in illicit massage businesses, many functioning as fronts for prostitution operations; and

WHEREAS, this legislation caused significant issues in many communities, and local governments and law enforcement agencies across the state worked to have it amended; and

WHEREAS, SB 731 was allowed to sunset in 2014, and the Legislature passed AB 1147 (Bonilla) which updated the regulation of massage therapy in California and restored to local governments the ability to regulate massage therapy businesses; and

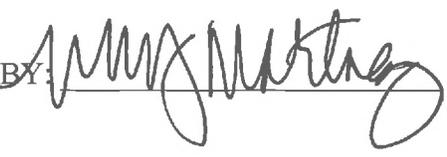
WHEREAS, AB 2793 (Jones), recently introduced legislation related to the regulation of bowerwork massage, would preempt local jurisdictions from applying regulations on massage therapy businesses to establishments providing bowerwork massage; and

WHEREAS, AB 2793 would give illicit massage businesses a new way to avoid local oversight, and would lead to many of the same issues that local governments had to deal with under SB 731; and

WHEREAS, there is no reason why businesses practicing bowerwork massage should be regulated in a different manner than any other type of massage business;

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 2015 - 2016 State Legislative Program OPPOSITION to AB 2793 (Jones), which would exempt bowerwork massage establishments from local ordinances regulating massage therapy businesses.

PRESENTED BY: 
MITCHELL ENGLANDER
Councilmember, 12th District

SECONDED BY: 

jwd

APR 12 2016



ORIGINAL