

B3

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles (City) with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state, or federal government 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, more than 80% of California is in a severe drought condition, with 38% of California in an exceptional drought, the highest classification; and

WHEREAS, California is facing some of the most significant water challenges that it has seen in the last half-century, including the deterioration of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta, aging infrastructure, ongoing drought conditions; and significant water shortages; and

WHEREAS, these challenges make it imperative that the State focus on achieving a sustainable water future through effective management of groundwater and surface waters, along with enhanced water conservation, water reuse, and stormwater use; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) is currently working to comply with City of Los Angeles sustainability goals and State of California requirements for water use reduction; and

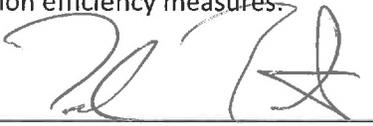
WHEREAS, existing law includes federal tax exclusions on energy conservation rebates and subsidies provided by utilities; and

WHEREAS, comparable federal tax exclusions are not extended to water conservation measures provided by water utilities, such as LADWP; and

WHEREAS, the lack of a comparable tax exclusion effectively decreases customer rebates and subsidies, discourages program participation, and increases administration costs; and

WHEREAS, Representative Jared Huffman and Representative Dana Rohrabacher have proposed House of Representatives Bill (HR) 4615, which would amend existing law to allow a tax exemption for water conservation measures, thereby increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of water conservation programs that provide financial incentives, including the programs offered by LADWP;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by adoption of this Resolution, with the concurrence of the Mayor, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-2016 Federal Legislative Program, **Support** for HR 4615 (Huffman & Rohrabacher) and similar federal legislation that provides a federal tax exemption for water conservation efficiency measures.

PRESENTED BY:   
FELIPE FUENTES  
Councilmember, 7<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY: 

JUN - 1 2016



ORIGINAL