

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

WHEREAS, the California Department of Public Health states that smoking tobacco cigarettes continues to be one of the leading causes of death and disease in California and claims the lives of more than 35,000 residents per year; and

WHEREAS, Californians incur billions of dollars in tobacco-related medical expenses each year in the treatment of cancer, heart disease, stroke, lung disease, and other diseases; and

WHEREAS, existing law imposes a tax at a rate equivalent to 87 cents per pack which is among the lowest cigarette tax rates in the nation; and

WHEREAS, before the Legislature is a bill, SB 591 (Pan) which would levy an additional tax on the distribution of cigarettes in the amount of \$2.00 per pack; and

WHEREAS, tobacco levies are highly effective at dissuading individuals from smoking cigarettes; and

WHEREAS, SB 591 would utilize the new revenue generated from the tax to fund the California Tobacco Control Program to discourage individuals from using tobacco cigarettes through educational programs;

WHEREAS, while we have made great strides in our efforts to reduce the incidence of tobacco smoking and tobacco-related deaths, SB 591 would provide additional resources to further reduce the economic and health-related impacts related to the use of tobacco cigarettes;

WHEREAS, SB 591 is consistent with existing City policies to reduce the health-related impacts of smoking in communities throughout the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that upon the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-16 State Legislative Program support of SB 591 (Pan), which would levy an additional tax on the distribution of tobacco cigarettes.

PRESENTED BY: Bernard C. Parks  
BERNARD C. PARKS  
Councilmember, 8th District

SECONDED BY: Whitney D. Zaretsky  
Paul Koretz

ORIGINAL

BMR

MAR 24 2015