

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS sections 233.5 (part of the "Hate Violence Prevention Act") and 60042 of the California Education Code require K-12 instruction that promotes and encourages kindness to pets and humane treatment of animals; and

WHEREAS there are numerous academic studies have established a correlation between childhood and other animal cruelty and interpersonal violence in adulthood; and

WHEREAS law enforcement agencies in such major cities as Houston, Chicago, Los Angeles and others have acknowledged that correlation and formed special enforcement units to combat animal cruelty; and

WHEREAS one of the overarching goals of humane education programs is to prevent violence by teaching empathy, compassion and respect for all living beings and help children develop into caring, responsible citizens; and

WHEREAS section 60042 asks schools to adopt and employ instructional materials to pursue such goals but provides no compulsion for them to do so, especially if it would burden the school's budget; and

WHEREAS there is evidence from the experiences of teachers or organizations who have conducted pilot humane education efforts that student knowledge and positive perceptions of animals are not as commonplace as they should be; and

WHEREAS, HR 28 has been introduced in the Legislature calling upon the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the State Board of Education and the California Department of Education to take immediate steps to ensure compliance with sections 233.5 and 60042 of the Education Code by the state's public school systems.

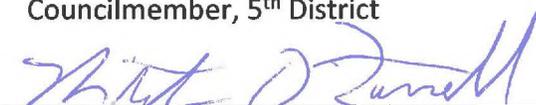
NOW, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-2016 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for HR 28 and the effort to expand humane education in California's schools.

PRESENTED BY:



PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY:



AUG 04 2015

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