

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, California established the Safe at Home Confidential Address Program (Safe at Home) in 1999 to allow victims of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking to complete an application to enable state and local agencies to respond to requests for public records without disclosing the program participant's address and otherwise keep that person's information confidential; and

WHEREAS, the applications are approved by the California Secretary of State and any person who makes a false statement in the application is guilty of a misdemeanor; and

WHEREAS, Safe at Home participants can use a free P.O. Box instead of their home address to help them maintain their privacy when receiving mail, opening a bank account, registering to vote, getting a driver's license, etc.; and

WHEREAS, since the program's inception in 1999, Safe at Home has helped to protect more than 7,000 survivors of domestic violence, stalking, and sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, California is one of the top four human trafficking destinations in our country; and

WHEREAS, currently pending before the State Senate is SB 597 (Leyva) that would make victims of human trafficking eligible for the Safe at Home Program; and

WHEREAS, this bill requires that victims of human trafficking submit an application that contains a sworn statement by the applicant that he or she believes that they are a victim of human trafficking and that the applicant fears for his or her safety or his or her children's safety, or the safety of the minor on whose behalf the application is made, which is akin to the application requirements for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking; and

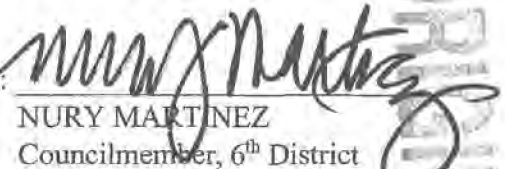
WHEREAS, this bill would impose new duties on local public officials and expand the scope of an existing crime, thereby creating a state-mandated local program; and

WHEREAS, SB 597 would allow for additional protections of victims of human trafficking from their exploiters when they seek to establish new names and addresses;

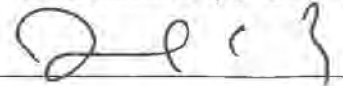
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOVLED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2017-2018 State Legislative Program support of SB 597 (Leyva) that would authorize victims of human trafficking to apply for the Safe at Home Program that enables state and local agencies to respond to requests for public records without disclosing the program participant's address and otherwise provide for confidentiality of identity for that person.

MAR 22 2017

PRESENTED BY:


NURY MARTINEZ
Councilmember, 6th District

SECONDED BY:





ORIGINAL