

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, the Wildlife Protection Act of 2019, (AB 273 - Gonzalez Fletcher, D-San Diego), proposes to ban the commercial trapping of fur; and

WHEREAS, the commercial trapping of wildlife for their fur in California is an activity and industry which has become economically unviable for taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, commercial animal trapping can involve killing animals through strangulation, gassing and anal electrocution in order to ensure undamaged pelts; and

WHEREAS, trapping for fur is a form of animal cruelty that also endangers the long-term well-being of coyotes, foxes, badgers and other fur-bearing animals by depleting their populations; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 the state banned the trapping of bobcats with the support of the City of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, the approximately \$15,000 in revenue received by the state Department of Fish and Wildlife for licensing a total of just 133 commercial trappers statewide does not provide for full-cost recovery for the regulatory, management and enforcement activities of the Department needed to monitor trapping, creating a de facto subsidy for commercial fur trapping; and

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the minimal revenue generated by the sale of the furs of the animals killed by trappers is dwarfed by the millions of dollars that non-consumptive wildlife-watching generates in California's economy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles is in the process of banning the farming and sale of fur within the city limits (CF 18-0538); and

WHEREAS, the passage of AB 273 will protect California's wildlife, ban a cruel practice and end a costly subsidy to an obsolete industry.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2019-2020 state legislative program SUPPORT for AB 273, the Wildlife Protection Act of 2019, which will extend protections to all fur-bearing animals in California from commercial trapping.

PRESENTED BY: Paul Koretz
PAUL KORETZ, Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY: Bob Hunter

ORIGINAL

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