

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, in 1996, 55 percent of California voters approved Proposition 209, the California Civil Rights Initiative, which prohibited preferential consideration based on race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in public employment, public education, or public contracting; and

WHEREAS, the measure was considered during a time in which integration and the legacy of segregation were prevalent in the public consciousness and governmental agencies, as well as educational institutions, had voluntarily adopted affirmative action policies; and

WHEREAS, the immediate result of Proposition 209 was a drastic reduction in workforce participation rates and college acceptance rates for people of color and women; and

WHEREAS, minority and women-owned business enterprise programs throughout the State have been devastated and those that remain must navigate the difficulties of engaging underrepresented populations under Proposition 209; and

WHEREAS, faced with declining funding, prominent state universities have turned to enrolling out-of-state students in higher numbers, who, although they pay higher tuition, are significantly less diverse than California students; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA) 5 (Weber - Gipson), currently pending in the California State Assembly, would repeal Section 31 of Article I, allowing governmental agencies to give preferential consideration based on race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in employment, contracting, and education; and

WHEREAS, the different ways of thinking and innovative ideas that result from ethnic and gender diversity have been shown to improve student outcomes and business success, and are critical for the growth and prosperity of Los Angeles; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 209 reinforces conditions of racial and gender inequality which have been prevalent in modern history and contemporary times, and the City of Los Angeles must acknowledge and continue to take steps to address the issue of underrepresentation; and

WHEREAS, taking the vital first step of ensuring equal opportunity to participate will allow additional concerns such as job quality and advancement for underrepresented groups to be addressed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT 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 Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5, which would repeal Section 31 of Article I, allowing governmental agencies to give preferential consideration based on race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in employment, contracting, and education.

PRESENTED BY:


MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilwoman, 7th District

SECONDED BY:



MAR 17 2020



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