MOTION

The COVID-19 pandemic has decimated Los Angeles, killing thousands of individuals and leaving many families without a grandparent, parent, or child. As the region has responded to the COVID-19 pandemic, the County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health has served as the primary agency tasked with implementing public health guidelines, testing, and vaccine distribution.

One of the biggest challenges of the pandemic has been ensuring that resources such as PPE, testing sites, and vaccine sites are placed where they are needed most. In neighborhoods such as Sun Valley, Pico-Union, and Boyle Heights, one in six people has had COVID-19. Yet, because the city’s public health response is run by the county, the city has very little control over how resources are allocated.

Pursuant to Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 8.272, the city should explore the feasibility of creating its own public health department in order to determine if having local control will improve the ability of the city to respond to public health emergencies.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Chief Legislative Analyst, in coordination with the City Administrative Officer, report on the feasibility of establishing a City of Los Angeles Public Health Department.

I FURTHER MOVE that this report look at the responsibilities associated with this proposed department, the cost of implementing it, and the revenue sources such as state and federal dollars which would provide the necessary funding for its operation.

PRESENTED BY:

GILBERT A. CEDILLO
Councilmember, 1st District

BOB BLUMENFIELD
Councilmember, 3rd District

PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

KEVIN DE LEÓN
Councilmember, 14th District

SECONDED BY:

FEB 03 2021