

MOTION

As our City grapples with the devastating impacts of climate change, we must ensure that our residents are equipped with the tools they need to maintain the highest standard possible of livability. In recent years we have experienced summers of deadly heat over prolonged periods and we must be prepared for those heat waves to both worsen and persist.


Extreme heat emergencies can lead to dangerous and sometimes deadly consequences, especially among our elders. At this point in the climate emergency, the ability to cool one's home cannot be considered a luxury and rather must be treated as a necessity. Heat-related deaths are avoidable and it is incumbent upon the City to do everything possible to prevent them.

Requiring cooling apparatus for all residential rental units could be a life-saving measure for countless Angelenos during extreme heat events. But in consideration of this possibility, we must also consider the economic impact running a cooling apparatus can have on an energy bill, which would most greatly impact our lowest income Angelenos. No one should have to refrain from running a potentially life-saving cooling apparatus for fear of a crippling energy bill.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Los Angeles Housing Department (LAHD) and the Department of Building and Safety (DBS) report on potential code amendments to require cooling apparatus in all residential rental units.

I FURTHER MOVE that the Department of Water and Power (DWP), the Office of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), and LAHD report on potential programs to assist low-income and middle-income tenants with subsidies to offset increased and/or unaffordable energy consumption due to the installation and operation of a cooling apparatus, as well as potential funding sources for such programs.

PRESENTED BY:

  
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