

# RESOLUTION

**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**, between 1995-2013, the highest rate of rape and sexual assault victimizations affected females between the ages of 18-24, and the female victims in this age group not enrolled in college were 1.2 times more likely to experience rape and sexual assault than females enrolled in college. Furthermore, approximately 80% of college-age victims knew their offender; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2014, California enacted SB 967 (De León), Chapter 748, which was a comprehensive overhaul of how colleges and universities address sexual violence. One of the main components of the bill was establishing an affirmative consent standard, the first application of the “yes means yes” concept in the country; and

**WHEREAS**, SB 967 shifted the paradigm away from the current practice of assuming consent in the absence of a “no” response from a victim - only an explicit “yes,” either through verbal or nonverbal communication, means consent; and

**WHEREAS**, given the statistics regarding the victimization of women between the ages of 18-24, high school students are the most vulnerable population and the importance of educating them early on these issues is paramount to reducing the number of incidents; and

**WHEREAS**, many California high schools require health education as a condition of graduation. As part of this education, students in grades 9-12 learn about the importance of healthy relationships, how interpersonal communication affects relationships, decision-making skills to extract oneself from an unhealthy situation, and an understanding of issues related to bullying, sexual harassment and violence; and

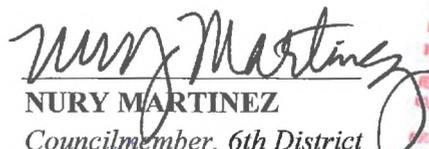
**WHEREAS**, the next step in expanding these education efforts is to discuss the issue of rape and sexual violence with all high school students – male and female; and

**WHEREAS**, Senate Bill 695 has been introduced to the State Legislature by Senators Hannah Beth-Jackson and Kevin De Leon, which would augment high school health curriculum to educate adolescents on sexual assault prevention and the importance of developing positive, healthy relationships in order to reduce assault incidents in the future.

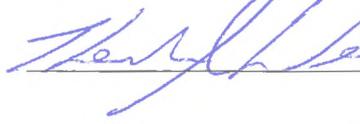
**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-16 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for Senate Bill 695 as proposed.

PRESENTED BY:

  
MIKE BONIN  
Councilmember, 11<sup>th</sup> District

  
NURY MARTINEZ  
Councilmember, 6<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:



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