

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 government 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, the California desert is home to unique scenic, historical, archeological, ecological, cultural, scientific, educational, and recreational elements used and enjoyed by millions of Californians; and

WHEREAS, the California desert is home to national parks, preserves, monuments and wilderness areas that preserve the unique values and history of the California desert including but not limited to: Mojave National Preserve, Mojave Trails National Monument, Joshua Tree National Park, Sheephole Valley Wilderness, and Clipper Mountains Wilderness; and

WHEREAS, the current Federal Administration has signaled a series of direct challenges to national monuments including the California desert; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Cadiz Valley Water Conservation, Recovery and Storage Project seeks to extract and transfer groundwater from public lands in the Mojave Desert; and

WHEREAS, the extraction and transfer of the groundwater from this region would serve to negatively impact the Mojave Desert and its wildlife; and

WHEREAS, SB 307 (Roth), introduced February 15, 2019, seeks to protect the Mojave Desert from the potential impacts of the proposed groundwater extraction project; and

WHEREAS, the measure would prohibit the transfer of water from a groundwater basin underlying desert lands that is in the vicinity of a national monument, a national park, a state or federal wilderness area, unless the State Lands Commission, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, finds that the transfer of the water will not adversely affect the natural or cultural resources of those Federal and State lands;

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 SB 307 (Roth) which would strengthen protections for the ecologically fragile Mojave Desert by ensuring that any transfer of water from its groundwater basins do not adversely affect the region's natural and cultural resources.



PRESENTED BY:


PAUL KORETZ
Councilmember, 5th District

APR 17 2019

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL