

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 first have been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, as the world is facing ever-worsening climate disasters, like the recent heatwave that killed up to 500 people in the Northwest U.S. and British Columbia and the massive floods in Australia and elsewhere, the City of Los Angeles continues to provide strong international leadership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in time to keep the climate safe and the planet habitable and thriving; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has been leading the way nationally with its LA100 effort, an effort whose success depends upon achieving full electrification across city sectors as soon as possible; and

WHEREAS, in Los Angeles buildings account for 43% of climate emissions – more than any other sector, and both Mayor Garcetti and the City Council have prioritized policies to require building decarbonization; and

WHEREAS, methane leakage from the gas distribution system and gas appliances, and CO₂ and NO_x emissions from gas appliances and heating systems are major sources of greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the gas distribution system, gas appliances, and gas heating systems contribute to heart and lung disease by releasing NO_x and particulate matter that lingers in homes, buildings, and neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the Climate Equity LA series run by the City's Climate Emergency Mobilization Office is dedicated to drilling down into and elevating environmental justice and labor priorities within the decarbonization policies; and

WHEREAS, many cities across the State have taken aggressive steps to reduce emissions from the building sectors by adopting all-electric building "reach codes" for new construction; and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill 1393 (Archuleta/Rodriguez) would inhibit the state's progress on building decarbonization by putting undue and burdensome standards on cities seeking to adopt requirements to replace dangerous and polluting fossil-fueled appliances with zero-emission, electric appliances; and

WHEREAS, the California Energy Commission already has responsibility to review and approve local adoption of energy standards provided that local standards are cost effective and that the standards will require buildings to be designed to consume no more energy than permitted by the California Energy Code; and

WHEREAS, SB 1393 would require a host of additional findings that undermine local control and place an undue burden on local jurisdictions that are exercising their rights to safeguard constituents from the harms of fossil fuels, from air pollution that harms people's health, and from wildfires that threaten their lives, properties and livelihoods; and

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WHEREAS, local governments should be incentivized rather than disincentivized to adopt strong reach codes to better protect the health and safety of their communities; and

WHEREAS, the utter failure of international and national leadership to meaningfully reduce greenhouse gas emissions has put people all over the world at great risk, including Angelenos, many of whom work and reside in frontline communities already bearing the brunt of climate impacts like extreme heat and lung-damaging ozone pollution; and

WHEREAS, leadership on climate emissions reductions has thereby fallen upon cities and their utilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles and other cities must continue to be able to move nimbly on climate emissions reductions work within their jurisdiction and halt any attempt to inhibit or otherwise slow their efforts.

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 2021-2022 State Legislative Program OPPOSITION to SB 1393 (Archuleta/Rodriguez), which will dangerously inhibit the City's ability to meet its building decarbonization targets in time to protect against severe climate disruption and continuing climate disasters.

PRESENTED BY:

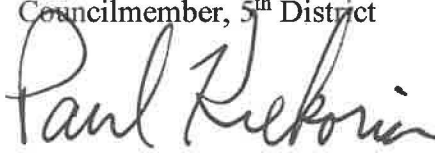


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