

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

**WHEREAS**, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), although driving decreased in 2020 due to the pandemic, an estimated 39,000 people died in motor vehicle crashes, the largest number of fatalities since 2007; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021, the Department of California Highway Patrol responded to approximately 6,000 incidents of street racing, issuing 2,500 citations and seizing 17 firearms; and

**WHEREAS**, in Los Angeles, reckless driving and participation in sideshows undoubtedly contributed to the senseless death 294 people in 2021, a startling 24 percent increase over 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, existing law defines vehicular manslaughter as lawful or unlawful operation of a motor vehicle with gross negligence, and can be charged as a misdemeanor or a felony; and

**WHEREAS**, currently pending before the California State Legislature is SB 1472 (Stern) which would allow a death resulting from participation in a sideshow, speed exhibition, speeding, or committed by a person who has multiple reckless driving convictions to be charged as vehicular manslaughter; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill would include participation in these activities or multiple reckless driving convictions in the definition of gross negligence, allowing them to result in a vehicular manslaughter charge; and

**WHEREAS**, the bill would also require courts who convict an individual of speeding or reckless driving to advise them that a death resulting from speeding or reckless driving can be charged as vehicular manslaughter; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the NHTSA, most fatal car crashes result directly from sideshows or speed exhibitions, therefore increased penalties are necessary to serve as a deterrent and save lives; and

**WHEREAS**, the City must stand firm and take proactive actions to address the reckless actions that are needlessly endangering the residents of Los Angeles;

**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 SUPPORT for SB 1472 (Stern) which would allow a death resulting from participation in a sideshow, speed exhibition, speeding, or committed by a person who has multiple reckless driving convictions to be charged as vehicular manslaughter.

PRESENTED BY:



PAUL KORETZ  
Councilmember, 5<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:



ORIGINAL

MAY 11 4 2022