REPORT OF THE CHIEF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

DATE: September 09,2026

TO: Honorable Members of the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

FROM: Sharon M. Tso for Chief Legislative Analyst

Council File No.: 25-0002-S112
Assignment No.: 26-09-0633

SUBJECT: Resolution (Lee - Rodriguez) to SUPPORT SB 907 (Archuleta).

CLA RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Resolution (Lee - Rodriguez) to include in the City's 2025-2026 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for SB 907 (Archuleta), which would strengthen state laws related to driving under the influence.

SUMMARY

On May 1, 2026, a Resolution (Lee - Rodriguez) was introduced in support of SB 907 (Archuleta), which would strengthen state laws related to driving under the influence. The Resolution notes that driving under the influence (DUI) collisions remain a serious issue in California, and despite existing laws, DUI crash fatalities remain a significant portion of overall collision deaths.

Accordingly, the Resolution highlights the need to strengthen DUI-related state laws to ensure that offenders do not flee accountability. The Resolution, therefore, seeks an official position of the City of Los Angeles to support SB 907 (Archuleta), which would enhance penalties for certain hit-and-run offenses, as well as alter when a Watson Advisement would be required.

BACKGROUND

In the face of decades of public awareness campaigns and enforcement efforts, impaired driving continues to devastate communities and families throughout California. According to the California Highway Patrol, an average of 34,000 impaired-driving crashes occur annually, and between 2023 and 2025, the Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System reported that DUI-related crashes resulted in a yearly average of over 800 deaths and nearly 20,000 injuries.

SB 907 (Archuleta) introduces two principal provisions tied to specific DUI offenses. First, the bill creates mandatory sentences in regards to fleeing the scene of an accident for a person with a qualifying DUI-related or vehicular manslaughter conviction within the preceding 10 years. Existing law requires the driver of a vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injury or death to a person other than that driver, to immediately stop the vehicle at the scene of the accident and provide specified personal information to requisite parties involved. Currently, failing to comply is punishable as a misdemeanor or a felony. This bill would impose an increased felony penalty for the above-described violation for an accident resulting in death or serious injury, if either of those violations occurred within 10 years of a separate driving under the influence, reckless driving, or gross vehicular manslaughter violation.

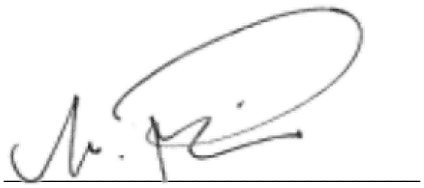
And second, SB 907 (Archuleta) expands the circumstances under which a judicial advisement, known as a "Watson Advisement" must be issued, which informs a person, among other things, that if they continue to drive under the influence and kill someone, they can be charged with

murder. Specifically, the bill advances a provision named, "Braun's Law," which would serve to close a gap in which a DUI allegation is dismissed or resolved as a different or lesser offense through a plea for which the defendant may not receive the same warning regarding the consequences of future impaired driving.

The bill's author asserts that California has fallen behind the nation in addressing drunk and impaired driving, putting California citizens at risk. In turn, this bill strengthens the state's DUI enforcement laws, particularly for repeat offenders. With a growing commitment to make California roads safer, SB 907 (Archuleta) would increase the punishment for fleeing the scene of an accident for a person with a prior specified driving conviction and expand the circumstances when a court must issue a Watson Advisement, and thereby strengthen accountability for certain repeat offenders who commit hit-and-run offenses involving injury or death with prior DUI-related convictions.

BILL STATUS

01/22/2026	Introduced.
08/30/2026	In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.
08/31/2026	Assembly amendments concurred in. (Ayes 38. Noes 0.) Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.



Monét A. Padilla
Analyst

Attachment: Resolution (Lee - Rodriguez)

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; and

WHEREAS, Driving Under the Influence (DUI) collisions remain a serious issue in California, and despite existing laws DUI crash fatalities remain a significant portion of overall collision deaths; and

WHEREAS, State laws related to DUI should be strengthened to ensure that those who commit these crimes are held to account; and

WHEREAS, SB 907 (Archuleta) would make significant changes to existing law, by adding "gross vehicular manslaughter," "gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated," and "vehicular manslaughter" to the State's list of "Violent Felonies;" and

WHEREAS, this bill would also allow for full, separate and consecutive terms for each conviction for these violations, as well as create mandatory sentences for hit-and-runs causing injury or death when the defendant has a prior conviction within the last ten years for DUI or gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, or vehicular manslaughter; and

WHEREAS, SB 907 would also require imprisonment in the state prison or county jail for up to one year for hit-and-runs causing property damage within 10 years of a conviction for the crimes covered by the bill; and

WHEREAS, this bill would also create a mandatory three-year sentencing enhancement for each prior conviction for one of the DUI-related crimes addressed by this bill, as well as make other changes to strengthen DUI enforcement and penalties; and

WHEREAS, SB 907 would strengthen the State's ability to hold drunk drivers to account, in particular repeat offenders who repeatedly engage in behavior that puts the general public at risk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2025 - 2026 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for SB 907 (Archuleta), which would add gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated and gross vehicular manslaughter to the violent felony list as well as strengthen Driving Under the Influence enforcement and sentencing laws, particularly for repeat offenders.

ORIGINAL

PRESENTED BY: _____
JOHN S. LEE
Councilmember, 12th District

MAY 0 1 2026

SECONDED BY: _____