

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, pending a final decision in a criminal trial, a court may set bail and allow a defendant to be released in lieu of remaining in custody; and

WHEREAS, in each case the amount of bail is determined by a number of factors including flight risk, nature of the alleged crime, and criminal history; and

WHEREAS, in November 2020, California voters rejected Proposition 25 which proposed ending the cash bail system in the State; and

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2020, in an attempt to halt the spread of the COVID-19 virus in jails, the California Judicial Council established a temporary Zero Emergency Bail Schedule which set bail for misdemeanors and some minor felonies at zero dollars; and

WHEREAS, while this initial reaction may have had good intentions, the decision was unilateral and did not account for the involvement of law enforcement, local governments, and California residents; and

WHEREAS, although the Judicial Council voted to sunset the zero bail schedule, on June 19, 2020, the California Superior Court of Los Angeles County adopted the temporary zero bail schedule for misdemeanor and some minor felony offenses; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles, among many other jurisdictions, have experienced a substantial increase in violent crime and brazen robberies; and

WHEREAS, recently, 14 suspects arrested by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) in connection with “smash-and-grab” robberies were immediately released on zero bail, an occurrence that has become common, leading to some suspects committing additional crimes after their release; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of this alarming trend, it is time to make common sense decisions regarding the zero bail and consider additional options, acknowledging the development of the COVID-19 vaccine and other preventative safety measures;

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 legislation which would reinstate cash bail.

PRESENTED BY:


JOE BUSCAINO
Councilmember, 15th District

SECONDED BY:



DEC 08 2021



ORIGINAL