

RESOLUTION NO. RES-05-0014

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONG BEACH OPPOSING THE CONTINUATION OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT EARLY RELEASE PROGRAM FOR NON-VIOLENT MISDEMEANANTS

WHEREAS, the people of the City of Long Beach have experienced street gang violence and other offenses against the public welfare, and have taken steps to reduce the incidents of such criminal acts; and

WHEREAS, in 1988 the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department was ordered by the Federal Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit not to exceed certain limits imposed by the Court upon the inmate population of the jail system; and

WHEREAS, over the past two fiscal years, the Sheriff's Department has reduced \$24.3 million and 279 positions from its custody budget, resulting in the closure of various inmate housing facilities and an increase in the minimum bail requirement threshold from \$25,000 to \$50,000, contributing to the early release of misdemeanants from jail; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Department decision to close jails did directly increase the number of early inmate releases and decrease the length of time inmates actually serve, with a significant number of inmates serving only ten percent of their respective jail sentences; and

WHEREAS, the early release of inmates has directly and negatively affected the efforts of the City to combat misdemeanor crime, particularly street gang crime, domestic violence crime and prostitution; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has recently approved a funding increase of approximately \$24 million over the next three fiscal

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1 years for the Sheriff's Department, but the Sheriff's Department estimates that it will be
2 at least one year before the funding increase will reduce the number of inmates
3 released from jail under the early release program.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves
5 as follows:

6 Section 1. The City of Long Beach opposes the continuation of the
7 Sheriff's Department's early release program.

8 Sec. 2. The City of Long Beach supports immediate application of the
9 renewed funding to return the supply of inmate housing to the same levels that existed
10 prior to the recent custody budget cuts and the inception of the early release program.

11 Sec. 3. The City Clerk shall forward copies of this resolution to the Los
12 Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the Chief Administrative Officer for Los Angeles
13 County and the Los Angeles County Sheriff.

14 Sec. 4. The City Clerk shall certify to the passage of this resolution by the
15 City Council and cause it to be posted in three conspicuous places within the City and it
16 shall take effect as hereinabove set forth.

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I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of April 5, 2005, by the following vote:

Ayes: Councilmembers: Lowenthal, Baker, Colonna, O'Donnell,
Kell, Richardson, Reyes Uranga,
Gabelich, Lerch.

Noes: Councilmembers: None.

Absent: Councilmembers: None.



City Clerk

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