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RESOLUTION NO. RES-05-0064

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF LONG BEACH IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL  
1050 (BOWEN) REQUIRING A QUALIFIED WRITE-IN  
VOTE TO BE COUNTED REGARDLESS OF THE  
PRESENCE OF AN ADDITIONAL MARK IN THE SPACE  
PROVIDED

WHEREAS, fundamental provisions of the Long Beach City Charter  
acknowledge and reflect the City's long-standing tradition of write-in candidacies; and

WHEREAS, the tradition was well demonstrated by the historic write-in  
candidacy of its own Honorable Mayor Beverly O'Neill in June 2002; and

WHEREAS, neither federal nor state funding is provided to educate voters  
on how to vote or improve municipal poll worker training efforts; and

WHEREAS, the California Voter Foundation has reported that 42% of all  
infrequent voters feel that voting is too confusing and complicated; and

WHEREAS, first-time voters, including young and old residents, may be  
overwhelmed in having to comprehend multi-jurisdictional ballot contests and measures  
for the very first time; and

WHEREAS, City and other municipal and special district elections are  
known for their close races in which a single vote can make the difference; and

WHEREAS, the City of Long Beach would like to promote and uphold the  
principle that every vote shall be counted; and

WHEREAS, the 2004 City of San Diego General Election had Donna  
Frye, a qualified write-in candidate, lose by about 2,000 votes due to the 5,000 votes  
that were not counted under law (Election Code 15432);

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1 NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Long Beach resolves  
2 as follows:

3 Section 1. The City Council of the City of Long Beach supports SB  
4 1050 to count qualified write-in candidates that have not been additionally indicated with  
5 a mark in the space provided.

6 Sec. 2. The City Clerk is directed to transmit a copy of this resolution  
7 to the Governor of the State of California, the members of the California Legislature  
8 representing the Long Beach area, and other officials, agencies, entities, and  
9 individuals as may be deemed appropriate.

10 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its  
11 adoption by the City Council, and the City Clerk shall certify the vote adopting this  
12 resolution.

13  
14 I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the City  
15 Council of the City of Long Beach at its meeting of August 2, 2005, by  
16 the following vote:

17 Ayes: Councilmembers: Lowenthal, Colonna, O'Donnell,  
18 Richardson, Reyes Uranga,  
19 Gabelich, Lerch.  
20

21 Noes: Councilmembers: None.  
22

23 Absent: Councilmembers: Baker, Kell.  
24

25  
26   
27 City Clerk

27 HAM:fl  
7/18/05  
28 L:\APPS\CtyLaw32\WPDOCS\ID018\PO04\00076951.WPD  
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