

RULES & GOVERNMENT

RESOLUTION

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, on May 26, 2009, President Barack Obama nominated Judge Sonia Sotomayor to the United States Supreme Court; and

WHEREAS, born to a Puerto Rican family in 1954, Judge Sotomayor grew up in a public housing project in the South Bronx; and

WHEREAS, while studying history at Princeton University, Judge Sotomayor championed the rights of minorities, petitioning the university president for an increase in Latino faculty and students, helping design a course on the history and politics of Puerto Rico, and speaking out against homosexual discrimination and police brutality; and

WHEREAS, after graduating *summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa, and receiving the Pyne Prize, Princeton's highest undergraduate honor, Judge Sotomayor attended Yale Law School, where she served as an editor of the Yale Law Journal; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, Judge Sotomayor became an Assistant District Attorney in Manhattan, where she tried numerous "street crime" cases over five years; and

WHEREAS, as a partner with the law firm Pavia and Harcourt, Judge Sotomayor was a general civil litigator involved in real estate, employment, banking, contracts, and trademark law; and

WHEREAS, in 1992, Ms. Sotomayor was appointed to the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York by President George H.W. Bush; and

WHEREAS, as a trial judge, Ms. Sotomayor earned her reputation as a skilled jurist by providing landmark rulings including a 1995 injunction against Major League Baseball owners, effectively ending a disastrous baseball strike; and

WHEREAS, in 1998, President Bill Clinton appointed Judge Sotomayor to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit; and

WHEREAS, as the first Latina to serve on that court, Judge Sotomayor has shown her keen awareness of the law's impact on everyday life, and has demonstrated that the rule of law lies not just in theory, but in real-world facts that must be explored to ensure consistent, fair, common-sense rulings; and

WHEREAS, in her 1997 confirmation hearing, Judge Sotomayor stated "I don't believe we should bend the Constitution under any circumstance. It says what it says. We should do honor to it."; and

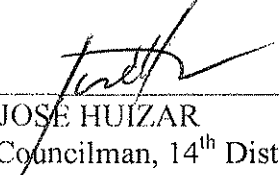
WHEREAS, with experience as a prosecutor, trial and appellate judge, Sonia Sotomayor will bring more federal judicial experience to the Supreme Court than any justice in 100 years; and

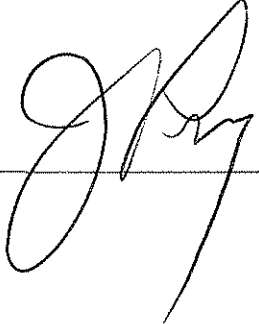
WHEREAS, as the first Latina Justice of the Supreme Court, Judge Sotomayor will be a role model to millions of women and minorities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles congratulates Sonia Sotomayor on her Supreme Court nomination and supports her confirmation as the next justice of this honorable body;

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 2009-2010 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for the confirmation of Sonia Sotomayor as Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

PRESENTED BY: 
JANICE HAHN
Councilwoman, 15th District


JOSE HUIZAR
Councilman, 14th District

SECONDED BY: 

ORIGINAL