

RESOLUTION **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, the hours immediately following a disaster are critical to rescue and recovery efforts yet law enforcement is often overburdened and staff is spread thin; and

WHEREAS, a lack of police presence during a major disaster can result in chaos and disorder which can affect the ability of first responders to conduct rescue operations; and

WHEREAS, after Hurricane Katrina, volunteer first responders from throughout the country went to New Orleans to assist local law enforcement but many of the volunteers encountered red tape that left them frustrated and idle rather than using their expertise to aid efforts; and

WHEREAS, there are many retired police officers who are willing to offer their experience and expertise in times of crisis; and

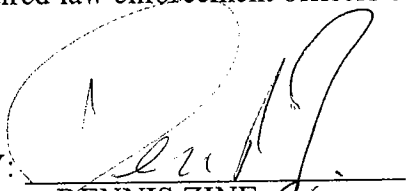
WHEREAS, currently pending in Congress is a bill, S. 2483, the Law Enforcement Assistance Force (LEAF) Act, which would establish a Law Enforcement Assistance Force in the Department of Homeland Security to facilitate the contributions of retired law enforcement officers during major disasters to assist local law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the Law Enforcement Assistance Force Act would allow a retired law enforcement officer, whose certifications are current, to apply to the Secretary of Homeland Security to serve in the force. These retired police officers would be detailed to Federal, State, or local government law enforcement agencies to assist in the event of a major disaster. They would work under the direct supervision of existing law enforcement agencies and would be deputized and certified to perform the duties of a law enforcement agent. The force would serve as temporary first responders to supplement local efforts in search and rescue efforts as well as in protecting public safety; and

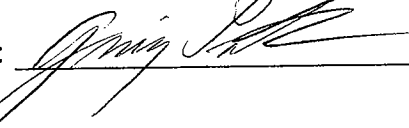
WHEREAS, retired police officers have the skills to save lives and we should empower them to do so; we should take advantage of the fact that retired officers possess a wealth of talent and experience in dealing with emergency situations. Their assistance can save lives and contribute greatly to our communities;

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 2005-2006 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT of S. 2483, the Law Enforcement Assistance Force (LEAF) Act, which would establish a Law Enforcement Assistance Force in the Department of Homeland Security to facilitate the contributions of retired law enforcement officers during major disasters to assist local law enforcement.

PRESENTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

  
DENNIS ZINE  
Councilman, 3<sup>rd</sup> District

SECONDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



MAY 17 2006

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