## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PADILLA URGES REVIEW OF AMBULANCE INSPECTION PROGRAM Hygiene, Safety Violations Cited

**LOS ANGELES** – Councilmember Alex Padilla's special emergency motion directing the City to review its ambulance inspection program was unanimously approved by the City Council today. The motion seeks to ensure that both the City and County ambulance systems meet basic health and safety standards.

A KMEX-TV investigative report found long lists of problems with L.A. County ambulances, including the presence of deadly carbon monoxide gas, low oxygen levels, and vehicle maintenance problems, including faulty brakes. Filthy ambulance floors, dirty intravenous tubes, and soiled linens were also found in County ambulances.

"Our ambulance system must be 110% reliable," said Padilla. "Health and safety violations have no place in our ambulance fleet. Los Angeles residents deserve to have full confidence that dependable emergency medical care is delivered each and every time they dial 9-1-1. Ambulances should respond to emergencies, not create them."

The City Council will also urge the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to address the condition of the County's fleet of public and private ambulances, including immediate inspection of its ambulance fleet.

The 7<sup>th</sup> Council District serves the communities of Arleta, Lake View Terrace, Mission Hills, North Hills, North Hollywood, Pacoima, Panorama City, Sun Valley, Sylmar, and Van Nuys.

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