

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 Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) defines "domestic terrorism" as "violent, criminal acts committed by individuals and/or groups to further ideological goals stemming from domestic influences, such as those of a political, religious, social, racial, or environmental nature," and

WHEREAS, Section 802 of the USA Patriot Act expanded the definition of terrorism to cover ""domestic,"" as opposed to international, terrorism to state that a person engages in domestic terrorism if they do an act "dangerous to human life" that is a violation of the criminal laws of a state or the United States, if the act appears to be intended to: (i) intimidate or coerce a civilian population; (ii) influence the policy of a government by intimidation or coercion; or (iii) to affect the conduct of a government by mass destruction, assassination or kidnapping, within the territorial jurisdiction of the United States; and

WHEREAS, domestic terrorist actions have led to serious property damage, injury and loss of human life in the United States over the last several decades; and

WHEREAS, recently the FBI and the Michigan State Police arrested and charged a group of males who were plotting actions against the governor of that state with both federal and state crimes; and

WHEREAS, the one category of crimes the FBI could not charge the would-be perpetrators with is domestic terrorism, because such activity is not affirmatively identified as a crime under federal law, either under the USA Patriot Act or any other section of the law; and

WHEREAS, this results in suspects having to be charged with other federal crimes relating to the attempt to commit domestic terrorism, complicating the effort to investigate and enforce against these dangerous activities.

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 2021-2022 federal Legislative Program support for any legislation that defines "domestic terrorism" as a federal crime, accompanied by appropriate penalties and sentences and seek to sponsor such legislation as well.

PROPOSED BY: _____
PAUL KORETZ, Councilmember, Fifth District (verbal)

SECONDED BY: _____
JOE BUSCAINO, Councilmember, 15th District (verbal)