

RESOLUTION

RULES, ELECTIONS, 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 government 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**, Metropolitan Water District (MWD) is a public corporation created for the purpose of developing, storing, and distributing water throughout the Southern California region; and

**WHEREAS**, the MWD consists of 26 member agencies and provides drinking water to nearly 18 million people in its service area; and

**WHEREAS**, recent disturbing reports state that a number of current and former MWD employees have come forward exposing a pattern of sexual harassment, bullying and retaliation of women who participated in an apprentice program at the MWD; and

**WHEREAS**, the women who participated in the apprentice program stated that their complaints of harassment were ignored by MWD officials and some women were pressured to continue working around their abusers; one woman was transferred to work at a facility more than 100 miles from her home and family; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 27, 2020 an independent investigation was initiated by the MWD to review this matter, but there is concern that the investigation will be rushed and inadequate in addressing the problem; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to create the institutional change necessary to ensure the MWD's workplace is free from harassment, discrimination, bullying and retaliation, the State needs to conduct a comprehensive investigation into the alleged abuses, and the related human resources practices; and

**WHEREAS**, by conducting these activities a measure of workplace safety and justice may be ensured for the women and LGBTQ+ community working at the MWD;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles includes in its 2021-2022 State Legislative Program, sponsorship and support of any legislative effort by the Senate and Assembly Joint Legislative Audit Committee to conduct a comprehensive investigation and audit of the personnel policies and practices of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) to increase transparency and provide oversight of workplace health and safety; and the prevention of workplace discrimination, harassment, bullying and retaliation in light of recent reports concerning the treatment of women at the MWD.

PRESENTED BY:




PAUL KORETZ  
Councilmember, 5<sup>th</sup> District



NURY MARTINEZ  
Councilwoman, 6<sup>th</sup> District

SECONDED BY:



MITCH O'FARRELL  
Councilmember, 13<sup>th</sup> District



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