

R E S O L U T I O N

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 government placed the California Gray Whale on the endangered and threatened species list in 1970 when its estimated population was approximately 12,000 and removed it in 1994 when the population rose to 23,000; and

WHEREAS, a major collapse in 1999 and 2000 is estimated to have wiped out one-third of the total population of California Gray Whales; and

WHEREAS, whale watching tourism largely generated by the California Gray Whale contributes more than \$82 million dollars to the California economy; and

WHEREAS, in 2008 the California Legislature adopted Assembly Joint Resolution 49 requesting Congress and the President of the United States to call upon the National Marine & Fisheries Service to undertake an immediate and comprehensive assessment of the California Gray Whale; and

WHEREAS, National Marine Fisheries Service is currently conducting the first proper abundance estimate since 2001/2 over the next two years; and

WHEREAS, National Marine Fisheries Service has failed to include in its current assessment a comprehensive review of the major threats to the California Gray Whale, particularly the impact of climate change on this vulnerable species;

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, an item which calls on the Federal Government to immediately make publicly available the results of the current abundance assessment of the National Marine Fisheries Service as soon as the migration has ended and to instruct and fund the National Marine Fisheries Service to undertake an urgent comprehensive assessment of the major threats to the California Gray Whale, including the impact of climate change.

PRESENTED BY:



 JANICE HAHN

Councilwoman, 15th District

SECONDED BY:



MAR 19 2010