

PRESS RELEASE

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Greig Smith Council District 12



LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCILMAN GREIG SMITH

Councilman Smith Introduces Resolution Supporting Tough Sex Offenders Law

Los Angeles - Councilman Greig Smith introduced a resolution Friday, March 17 supporting “Jessica’s Law” a state bill that would strengthen California’s protections for children by enhancing penalties for registered sex offenders.

“We must use every tool of law enforcement available to protect children, the most vulnerable members of society, from violent sexual predators,” Councilman Smith said. “If Jessica’s Law saves a single child’s life, we need it.”

Jessica’s Law, an initiative by State Senator George Runner, was prompted by the kidnapping, rape and murder of a 9-year-old girl from Florida named Jessica Marie Lunsford by a registered sex offender. Sex offenders have high recidivism rates, and according to the Department of Justice, are most likely to prey on children when they commit their crimes again. Jessica’s Law has been passed in Florida and several states have proposed similar laws.

Jessica’s Law provisions include:

- Stronger minimum sentences for child molesters
- Taking away good behavior credits for violent offenders
- Requiring sex offenders to be tracked using GPS devices for life
- Prohibiting all registered sex offenders from living within 2,000 feet of a school, park or other places where children are present
- Providing stricter requirements for evaluating sexual predators
- Strengthening laws against child pornography, internet luring, and date rape drugs
- Higher fines, tougher penalties and longer parole terms

Councilman Smith, an LAPD Reserve Officer and member of the Public Safety Committee, has built a strong reputation for improving public safety and supporting police and other public safety officers. Last year, he authored and passed his COPS NOW plan, which secured funding for an additional 278 police officers without raising taxes.

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