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GARCETTI**

President, Los Angeles City Council
COUNCIL DISTRICT 13



200 N. Spring St. Room 470 • Los Angeles • CA 90012

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**GARCETTI ADVOCATES FOR FEDERAL LAW
TO HELP HOMEOWNERS FACING FORECLOSURE**
*Authors resolution calling for passage of S. 2636 (Reid)
with amendments to better assist Los Angeles homeowners*

Los Angeles City Council President Eric Garcetti today announced the passage of a resolution he authored in support of federal legislation to help homeowners facing foreclosure. The resolution puts the City of Los Angeles officially on record in support of the Foreclosure Prevention Act of 2008 (S. 2636) and recommends amendments to the proposed federal legislation that would better assist Los Angeles homeowners.

"I am committed to creating strong neighborhoods in Los Angeles, and when homes fall into foreclosure, it hurts the entire neighborhood. We have made great progress in reducing crime and cleaning up our communities in the last few years. We cannot allow this housing crisis to cause our neighborhoods to go backward," said Garcetti.

"The passage of this federal legislation would provide the City with critically needed funds to help us go into targeted neighborhoods facing growing blight because of vacant foreclosed on homes," said Los Angeles Housing Department General Manager Mercedes Marquez.

The Foreclosure Prevention Act of 2008, authored by U.S. Senator Harry Reid of Nevada, would allow victims of predatory lenders who are facing foreclosure to stay in their homes while they modify their mortgages in bankruptcy court. The Act would also provide funding for counseling services to help at-risk families avoid foreclosure.

Garcetti's resolution recommends amendments to the proposed federal legislation, including extending the length of time that cities could use funding provided through the Act to assist local homeowners. This will allow Los Angeles to better assist local homeowners because economists believe that it will take longer for the housing crisis to impact Los Angeles compared with other part of the country.

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