

# INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

## RESOLUTION

APR 05 2006

**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**, existing statutory law (Vehicle Code Section 21100(g)) gives local city or county government the authority to adopt rules and regulations by ordinance or resolution regarding, among other things, licencing and regulation of tow truck operations in the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the Los Angeles Board of Police Commissioners has responsibility for oversight of tow truck operations in the City; and

**WHEREAS**, concerns over bandit tow truck operations prompted the City Council to adopt an ordinance to alleviate abusive and unscrupulous towing practices by tow truck operators who move out of the City to avoid being regulated; and

**WHEREAS**, policymakers have an obligation to promote the safety and welfare of the general public from unscrupulous tow truck operators including, but not limited to, increasing the civil penalties for tow truck operators and drivers who are not licensed, impounding tow truck vehicles caught operating illegally in the City, increasing the civil penalties when such impounds involve bandit trucks to ensure that tow truck and service companies and operators are licenced and properly trained in the safe operation of towing equipment.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that by adoption of this Resolution, with the concurrence of the Mayor, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2005-2006 Legislative Program SUPPORT of AB 2210 (Goldberg) or similar legislation or administrative action that would recast the law governing towing of vehicles to permit local authorities to require specific written authorization from the property owner or the lessee prior to removal of any vehicle, require towing companies to provide a photocopy of the written authorization to the vehicle owner or an agent of that owner prior to receipt of payment for towing and storage fees, prohibit towing companies from removing or commencing the removal of a vehicle unless the towing company has made a good faith inquiry to determine the statutory restrictions regarding the removal of the vehicle from certain private property, require towing companies to maintain certain records and to make violation of any of these provisions a misdemeanor and subject to civil action for up to four times the amount of the towing and storage charges.

PRESENTED BY

  
DENNIS ZINE

Councilmember, 3<sup>RD</sup> District

APR 05 2006

SECONDED BY

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06-0002-959