

# City of Carson Report to Mayor and City Council

August 2, 2011 New Business Consent

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 11-102 IN SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY

**BILL 1226, CAYLEE'S LAW** 

Submitted by Raymond R. Crush

Public Services General Manager

Approved by Clifford W Graves

Interim City Manager

### I. <u>SUMMARY</u>

On July 19, 2011, Councilmember Gipson requested this matter be added to the August 2, 2011 City Council agenda for consideration. This request was approved by Mayor Dear.

The recent court case involving the death of two-year old Caylee Anthony brought to light the lack of existing California legislation that provides for punishment if a parent, guardian or caregiver fails to report a child missing. The proposed legislation, Assembly Bill 1226 (AB 1226) or Caylee's Law, if passed, would provide penalties for such failures of notification. Staff is requesting that the City Council consider adopting Resolution No. 11-102 in support of this proposed legislation.

## II. RECOMMENDATION

TAKE the following actions:

- 1. WAIVE further reading and ADOPT Resolution No. 11-102, "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF ASSEMBLY BILL 1226, CAYLEE'S LAW."
- 2. DIRECT staff to transmit the resolution to California State Assemblymembers Paul Cook, Cathleen Galgiani, Isadore Hall, III, Kevin Jeffries, David Valadao, Warren Furutani, and California State Senators Tom Berryhill and Ted Lieu.

# III. <u>ALTERNATIVES</u>

TAKE any other action the City Council deems appropriate.

# IV. BACKGROUND

In July 2008, after Caylee Anthony had been missing for 31 days, her grandparents reported her missing to law enforcement. The remains of Caylee Anthony were discovered five months later. Casey Anthony, Caylee's mother, was recently acquitted of murdering the child, but found guilty of lying to authorities about the child's whereabouts. While convicted of lying to law enforcement, Florida courts could do little to punish Casey for failing to report her

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daughter missing, as Florida state law did not require parents to report missing or deceased children. Unfortunately, what happened to Caylee could happen today in this state as California has a similar lapse in law.

California lawmakers have moved to prevent such tragedies from occurring by introducing AB 1226, Caylee's Law. This proposed legislation will make it a felony for a parent, guardian or caregiver to fail to report the death of a child to authorities within two hours of the child's death. Additionally, the measure would make it a felony for a parent, guardian or caregiver to fail to report a missing child under the age of 12 to authorities within 48 hours of the child's disappearance. The measure also includes an urgency clause, which, if approved by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown, would take effect immediately. Similar "Caylee's Law" efforts are currently underway in Florida, Oklahoma, New York, and West Virginia.

## V. FISCAL IMPACT

None.

#### VI. EXHIBITS

1. Resolution No. 11-102. (pgs. 3-4)

Prepared by: Brent Gesch, Public Safety Administrative Analyst

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Reviewed by.	
City Clerk	<u>City Treasurer</u>
Administrative Services	Development Services
Economic Development Services	Public Services

	Action	taken by	/ City Co	ouncil		
Date	Action					·
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#### **RESOLUTION NO. 11-102**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CARSON, CALIFORNIA, IN SUPPORT OF CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY BILL 1226, CAYLEE'S LAW

WHEREAS, Casey Anthony, mother of Caylee Anthony, failed to report her daughter missing for 31 days and her remains were not discovered until five months later; and

WHEREAS, Casey Anthony was charged, tried and later acquitted of the murder of her daughter, Caylee Anthony; and

WHEREAS, there is no existing Florida law or statute that makes failure of notification to law enforcement of a missing child a crime, as is the current situation in California; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill 1226, Caylee's Law, will make the failure of a parent, guardian or caregiver to report the death of a child within two hours or report a child missing within 48 hours, a felony.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the city of Carson, California, does hereby resolve as follows:

- Section 1. That the City Council of the city of Carson, California, supports the proposed legislation, Assembly Bill 1226, Caylee's Law.
- Section 2. That the Mayor shall sign and the City Clerk shall attest to the adoption of this resolution.
- Section 3. That staff shall submit said document to California State Assemblymembers Paul Cook, Cathleen Galgiani, Isadore Hall, III, Kevin Jeffries, David Valadao, Warren Furutani, and California State Senators Tom Berryhill and Ted Lieu.

PASSED, AP	PROVED	and ADOPT	ED this	day of _	<u>.</u>	<b>,</b>	•
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					Ma	yor Jim Dea	r



EXHIBIT NO. 1

ATTEST:	
City Clerk He	len S. Kawagoe, CMC, MMC
APPROVED	AS TO FORM:
City Attorney	

