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ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

October 11, 2011

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

11 October 11, 2011

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

SUNSET REVIEW FOR THE CONSUMER AFFAIRS ADVISORY COMMISSION (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Request to extend the sunset review date for the Consumer Affairs Advisory Commission.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve introduction of ordinance extending the Consumer Affairs Advisory Commission's sunset review date to June 30, 2012.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Los Angeles County Consumer Affairs Advisory Commission (Commission) was established in 1980 and has continued the Commission pursuant to Los Angeles County Code Chapter 3.13. The Board approved the most recent extension in September 2009.

The Commission's duties include:

- a. Ascertaining the needs of consumers and advising the Director of Consumer Affairs of its findings as appropriate.
- b. Advising the Director of Consumer Affairs concerning the protection and promotion of the interests of consumers.
- c. Advising the Director of Consumer Affairs regarding the need for changes in procedures, programs or legislation in order to further the interests of consumers.

- d. Discuss with the Director of Consumer Affairs methods for more effective consumer education.
- e. Studying and reporting on matters referred to the Commission for review by the Director of Consumer Affairs or the Board.
- f. Rendering to the Director of Consumer Affairs and the Board at least once each year a report of its activities.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Commissioners do not receive compensation. The Department of Consumer Affairs estimates that they spend approximately \$7,600 per year for Commission staff support, services and supplies.

Although the Commission's accomplishments (e.g., reported annually to the Board on Commission activities) were limited, the Commission's activities justify its expenses. The Commission is committed to improving its effectiveness during the next review period.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The Commission has 15 members, three appointed by each Supervisor and are required to meet six times per year. The Commission met 24 times between January 2007 and March 2010 (approximately seven times per year), with an average attendance of 7.3 (49%) members. The Commission recognizes its low average attendance and is actively working to improve attendance by sending letters and attendance records to all Commission members stressing the importance of attending Commission meetings.

The Commission's accomplishments during the review period were primarily limited to issuing annual reports to the Board on the Commission's activities and assisting the Department of Consumer Affairs in publicizing the Department's activities.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

Despite the Commission's limited activities, the Director of Consumer Affairs believes the Commission has an important mission and should be continued, and the Commissioners have indicated that they are committed to improving the Commission's effectiveness. The Commission's objectives for the next review period are to:

- Improve effectiveness by aligning activities with the Commission's duties
- Formalize the process for advising the Director on consumer issues
- Provide consumer-related information to/from the community groups and the Department of Consumer Affairs
- Continue to submit annual reports to the Board

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori Glasgow". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

LORI GLASGOW

Chair

LG:ld

Enclosures

c: Executive Officer of the Board
Auditor-Controller
County Counsel
Chief Executive Officer
Chair, Consumer Affairs Advisory Commission
Janet Logan, Chief, Board Operations
Angie Johnson, Chief, Commission Services