RESOLUTION NO. 17-4973

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD IN SUPPORT OF AB 1033 (GARCIA) DEFINING "STEALTHING" AS RAPE

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

WHEREAS, all forms of non-consensual sexual intercourse can have severe repercussions for the victims, including sexually transmitted diseases, unwanted pregnancy, and mental health trauma; and

WHEREAS, the practice of "stealthing", wherein the offender intentionally and non-consensually removes or tampers with a condom during intercourse, is gaining notoriety; and

WHEREAS, stealthing is currently not specifically identified as a form of rape under California state law; and

WHEREAS, AB 1033 (Garcia) would explicitly name stealthing as a form of rape, giving victims better access to legal recourse; and

WHEREAS, while stealthing and rape frequently victimize women, all genders suffer from this crime, making this a universal issue; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Hollywood was an early supporter of the State's "Yes Means Yes" campaign, which is directly related to Senator DeLeon's SB 967 – "Student safety: sexual assault", (Chapter 748, Statutes of 2014); and

WHEREAS, SB 967 requires "an affirmative, conscious and voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activity; thus, individuals who engage in stealthing clearly violate the current legal standard; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Hollywood holds a long track record of advocacy for sexual assault awareness, advancement of women's rights, gender equality, HIV/AIDS prevention, victims' rights, and public safety; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of West Hollywood supports AB 1033 (Garcia), in the interest of advancing equality and safety throughout the state of California.

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PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of West Hollywood at a regular meeting held this 19th day of June, 2017 by the following vote:

AYES:

Councilmember:

Horvath, Meister, Mayor Pro

Tempore Duran, and Mayor Heilman.

NOES:

Councilmember:

D'Amico.

ABSENT: ABSTAIN: Councilmember: Councilmember:

None.

None.

JOHN HEILMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST:

YVONNE QUARKER, CITY CLERK