

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, TO SUPPORT ASSEMBLY BILL  
(AB) 394 (WILSON), A BILL TO ENHANCE AND EXPAND  
THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF FAX AND OTHER  
CALIFORNIA PUBLIC TRANSIT SYSTEMS EMPLOYEES,  
PASSENGERS AND CONTRACTORS AGAINST  
ASSAULTS

WHEREAS, Fresno Area Express (FAX) is the largest transit agency in the Central Valley with over 500 employees, 111 buses during peak service, and over 9.6 million passengers last year. FAX transit employees are being threatened, verbally assaulted or assaulted weekly. In our latest transit survey, FAX passengers expressed they do not feel safe riding our system; and

WHEREAS, Transit employees frequently face threats of violence – and these incidents have skyrocketed over the past several years. This has directly impacted transit operations and has contributed heavily to the safety of transit workers and our ridership causing negative projection of safety on our buses; and

WHEREAS, Since 2014 assaults on transit workers have increased over 220% nationwide, this number unfortunately only continues to increase without action; and

WHEREAS, The California Transit Association (CTA), Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), and the Teamsters have worked with Assemblymember Lori Wilson to introduce AB 394 to promote safer transit environments for both riders and workers in two keys ways. First, the bill expands existing law to protect all transit employees, passengers and contractors against assaults with the additional criminal penalties including up to one year in jail and fines up to \$10,000; or if an injury is inflicted on that victim, the offense may be

Date Adopted:

Date Approved:

Effective Date:

City Attorney Approval: DCC

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treated as a felony with imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year or in state prison for 16 months, or two or three years and a fine of up to \$10,000. Second, AB 394 also now would allow transit agencies to seek a court-issued prohibition order against someone convicted of assault, if the court finds that the individual in question continues to pose a threat; and

WHEREAS, Public transit systems like FAX are integral to healthy communities and are vital to our efforts to provide safe and reliable transportation to school, jobs, medical appointments and needed errands for the over 9.6 million passengers last year.

WHEREAS, Both workers and passengers deserve to be treated with respect and be safe from harm. For these reasons, we strongly support AB 394.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Fresno as follows:

- 1. Wishes to show its support of AB 394 (Wilson) as a way to enhance the safety and security of FAX employees and all California’s public transportation systems by strengthening protections for transit operators and passengers.
- 2. This resolution shall be effective upon final approval.

\* \* \* \* \*

STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
COUNTY OF FRESNO ) ss.  
CITY OF FRESNO )

I, TODD STERMER, City Clerk of the City of Fresno, certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Fresno, at a regular meeting held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2025.

AYES :  
NOES :  
ABSENT :  
ABSTAIN :

TODD STERMER, MMC  
City Clerk

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Date

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
ANDREW JANZ  
City Attorney

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel E. Casas Date  
Senior Deputy City Attorney