

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Bowers

Date Submitted: 11/13/2025 08:45 PM

Council File No: 14-1371-S13

Comments for Public Posting: As a Los Angeles resident, I am outraged to learn that hotel and airline corporations are attempting to cut their employees' wages and healthcare by cynically wielding a business tax repeal initiative as blackmail against the City. Corporations like Delta, United and the American Hotel & Lodging Association recently received approval to circulate an initiative petition that would eliminate all business taxes, leaving a \$742 million annual hole in the General Fund—effectively, this is the equivalent of defunding the fire department. Worse, the plan is simple blackmail: agree to cut the Olympic Wage or we'll destroy the city's budget. This is outrageous. These same corporations along with other tourism businesses already spent over \$2.5 million in their unsuccessful bid this summer to overturn the Olympic Wage by referendum. Both Delta and United Airlines's CEOs received \$27.1 and \$33.9 million in compensation in 2024 respectively, and yet they are demanding again that tourism workers be denied healthcare and the ability to pay rent. Angelenos will not be bullied into abandoning tourism workers at a time when LA is poised to host the world's largest mega-events. LA City Council and Mayor Bass took a historic step in passing the Olympic Wage in May 2025. This policy, now finally implemented, will transform the lives of thousands of working families and their communities over the coming years. But any delay of wages and healthcare will be devastating to workers. We cannot allow billionaire corporations to turn us back. We urge you to stand with workers and reject corporate blackmail.