

Communication from Public

Name: Sarah Wiltfong
Date Submitted: 02/01/2021 03:28 PM
Council File No: 20-1609
Comments for Public Posting: Please find our letter of concern regarding LA City's consideration of "Hazard Pay" and request an economic impact study be completed before an adoption of any ordinance.

2/1/21

Nury Martinez
President, LA City Council

Via email

RE: "Hero Pay" for Front Line Grocery Workers

Honorable Nury Martinez and the Los Angeles City Council Members:

We are contacting you on behalf of BizFed, the Los Angeles County Business Federation. We are an alliance of over 200 business organizations representing over 450,000 employers with 4 million employees in Los Angeles County. We are contacting you regarding the City of Los Angeles' motion to draft an ordinance requiring grocery stores to pay an additional \$5 hazard/hero pay for 120 days.

Without question, grocery store workers are on the frontlines and their services are necessary during this critical time. Indeed, grocers have invested a significant amount in safety enhancements, bonuses, incentive pay, and additional health benefits as they recognize the continual sacrifice these workers are making. Grocers have also been subject to the city's recall, retention, and paid sick leave ordinances.

While we respect the desire to provide extra funds for these workers – we have concern that this is being rushed through without consideration of the economic consequences. At a time when families are struggling to make ends meet, these mandates have a high likelihood of passing the costs onto the consumers. Higher prices on food and necessary goods will not achieve the desired results of this mandate and instead hurt working families. What's more, if employers are forced to implement significantly higher wages on their staff, they may also have to decrease their hours to offset the costs.

We ask that the City of Los Angeles delay any implementation of such mandates until a full economic study can be completed to analyze impacts on working families.

Thank you for your consideration of our letter. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact sarah.wiltfong@bizfed.org.

Sincerely,



Donna Duperron
BizFed Chair
Torrance Area Chamber



David Fleming
BizFed Founding Chair



Tracy Hernandez
BizFed Founding CEO
IMPOWER, Inc.

CC: All Los Angeles City Council Members

BizFed Association Members

7-Eleven Franchise Owners Association of Southern California
Action Apartment Association
Alhambra Chamber of Commerce
American Beverage Association
American Hotel & Lodging
American Institute of Architects - Los Angeles
Angeles Emerald
Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles
Apartment Association, CA Southern Cities, Inc.
Arcadia Association of Realtors
AREAA North Los Angeles SFV SCV
Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc. Southern California Chapter
Association of Club Executives
Association of Independent Commercial Producers
Azusa Chamber of Commerce
Bell Gardens Chamber of Commerce
Beverly Hills Bar Association
Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce
BNI4SUCCESS
Boyle Heights Chamber of Commerce
Building Industry Association - Baldyview
Building Industry Association - LA/Ventura Counties
Building Industry Association - Southern California
Building Owners & Managers Association of Greater Los Angeles
Burbank Association of REALTORS
Burbank Chamber of Commerce
Business and Industry Council for Emergency Planning and Preparedness
Business Resource Group
CA Natural Resources Producers Assoc
CAAsian Chamber
CaCFA
California Apartment Association- Los Angeles
California Asphalt Pavement Association
California Association of Food Banks
California Bankers Association
California Bus Association
California Business Properties Association
California Business Roundtable
California Cannabis Industry Association
California Cleaners Association
California Construction Industry and Materials Association
California Contract Cities Association
California Fashion Association
California Gaming Association
California Grocers Association
California Hispanic Chamber
California Hotel & Lodging Association
California Independent Oil Marketers Association (CIOMA)
California Independent Petroleum Association
California Life Sciences Association
California Manufacturers & Technology Association
California Metals Coalition
California Restaurant Association
California Retailers Association
California Small Business Alliance
California Society of CPAs - Los Angeles Chapter
California Sportfishing League
California Trucking Association
Californians for Balanced Energy Solutions
Carson Chamber of Commerce
Carson Dominguez Employers Alliance
CDC Small Business Finance
Central City Association
Century City Chamber of Commerce
Cerritos Regional Chamber of Commerce
Citrus Valley Association of Realtors
Commercial Industrial Council/Chamber of Commerce
Construction Industry Air Quality Coalition
Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality
Council on Trade and Investment for Filipino Americans

Covina Chamber
Culver City Chamber of Commerce
Downey Chamber of Commerce
Downtown Center Business Improvement District
Downtown Long Beach Alliance
El Monte/South El Monte Chamber
El Segundo Chamber of Commerce
Employers Group
Engineering Contractor's Association
EXP
F.A.S.T.- Fixing Angelenos Stuck in Traffic FilmLA
Friends of Hollywood Central Park
Fur Information Council
FuturePorts
Gardena Valley Chamber
Gateway to LA
Glendale Association of Realtors
Glendale Chamber
Glendora Chamber
Greater Antelope Valley AOR
Greater Downey Association of REALTORS
Greater Lakewood Chamber of Commerce
Greater Los Angeles African American Chamber
Greater Los Angeles Association of REALTORS
Greater Los Angeles New Car Dealers Association
Harbor Association of Industry and Commerce
Harbor Trucking Association
Historic Core BID of Downtown Los Angeles
Hollywood Chamber
Hong Kong Trade Development Council
Hospital Association of Southern California
Hotel Association of Los Angeles
Huntington Park Area Chamber of Commerce
Independent Cities Association
Industry Business Council
Inglewood Airport Area Chamber of Commerce
Inland Empire Economic Partnership
International Warehouse Logistics Association
La Cañada Flintridge Chamber
LA County Medical Association
LA Fashion District BID
LA South Chamber of Commerce
Lancaster Chamber of Commerce
Larchmont Boulevard Association
Latino Food Industry Association
Latino Restaurant Association
LAX Coastal Area Chamber
League of California Cities
Long Beach Area Chamber
Los Angeles Area Chamber
Los Angeles County Board of Real Estate
Los Angeles County Waste Management Association
Los Angeles Gateway Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles Latino Chamber
Los Angeles Parking Association
Marketplace Industry Association
Motion Picture Association of America, Inc.
MoveLA
NAIOP Southern California Chapter
National Association of Royalty Owners
National Association of Tobacco Outlets
National Association of Women Business Owners
National Association of Women Business Owners - LA
National Hispanic Medical Association
National Latina Business Women's Association
Orange County Business Council
Pacific Merchant Shipping Association
Pacific Palisades Chamber
Panorama City Chamber of Commerce
Paramount Chamber of Commerce
Pasadena Chamber

Pasadena Foothills Association of Realtors
PhRMA
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
Pomona Chamber
Propel LA
Rancho Southeast Association of Realtors
ReadyNation California
Recording Industry Association of America
Regional Black Chamber-San Fernando Valley
Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Regional San Gabriel Valley Chamber
Rosemead Chamber
San Dimas Chamber of Commerce
San Gabriel Chamber of Commerce
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
San Pedro Peninsula Chamber
Santa Clarita Valley Chamber
Santa Clarita Valley Economic Development Corp.
Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce
Sherman Oaks Chamber
South Bay Association of Chambers
South Bay Association of Realtors
South Gate Chamber of Commerce
Southern California Contractors Association
Southern California Golf Association
Southern California Grantmakers
Southern California Leadership Council
Southern California Minority Suppliers Development Council Inc.
Southern California Water Coalition
Southland Regional Association of Realtors
Sunland/Tujunga Chamber
The Young Professional at the Petroleum Club
Torrance Area Chamber
Town Hall Los Angeles
Tri-Counties Association of Realtors
United Cannabis Business Association
United Chambers - San Fernando Valley & Region
United States-Mexico Chamber
Unmanned Autonomous Vehicle Systems Association
US Green Building Council
US Resiliency Council
Valley Economic Alliance, The
Valley Industry & Commerce Association
Vernon Chamber
Vietnamese American Chamber
Warner Center Association
West Hollywood Chamber
West Los Angeles Chamber
West San Gabriel Valley Association of Realtors
West Valley/Warner Center Chamber
Western Manufactured Housing Association
Western States Petroleum Association
Westside Council of Chambers
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Village Rotary Club
Whittier Chamber of Commerce
Wilmington Chamber
World Trade Center
Young Professionals in Energy - LA Chapter

Communication from Public

Name: Emma Soren

Date Submitted: 02/01/2021 03:51 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: I support a \$5/per hour hazard pay increase for grocery store workers.

Communication from Public

Name: Kelly Allen

Date Submitted: 02/01/2021 04:01 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: I support hazard pay for essential grocery workers

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/01/2021 04:35 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: I do not agree with paying hazard pay to grocery workers. I appreciate they are working at this time and they should be happy to be working when so many are not. This hazard pay puts the burden on the public and it creates even more problems like stores closing. If the stores are clean enough for the public to purchase from them then I don't agree with the hazard pay. The public is paying more for groceries and it seems the prices have gone up to cover the extra costs to keep the stores clean. I for one cannot keep covering all the costs when I'm not making a living due to Covid. We are all in this together so we need to stop making exceptions for some and not considering the effect on EveryONE.

Communication from Public

Name: Adam Schwartz
Date Submitted: 02/01/2021 04:37 PM
Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: I strongly support hazard pay for workers. Companies, particularly grocery stores, have seen record profits during the pandemic. When they say that they will lay people off as a result, that is a threat- and more importantly a choice based on skewed priorities. Please do not deny much needed and deserved hazard pay out of misguided concern for people's jobs. Leadership must not bend to cruel threats backed by corporate greed. Just this past week in Harbor Gateway I saw a family begging on the street for donations for another family member's funeral. The people are drowning.

Communication from Public

Name: Mark Applegate

Date Submitted: 02/01/2021 05:39 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: I'm writing to you in response to the "hazard/hero" pay ordinance that you are proposing tomorrow. As evidence of what has happened in Long Beach with Kroger closing two stores any ordinance such as this will place a forced burden on employers such that it is economically not sustainable for them to stay in business. As a business owner and a consumer there are ripple effects that out way any political PR some may hope to gain from this. I strongly urge you to vote NO on this ordinance. Sincerely,
Mark Applegate

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/01/2021 05:42 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: As much as I would love to support the initiative, it's not sustainable. Businesses are being crushed and can barely afford to stay open as it is. Let alone sustain that huge of a payroll increase.

Communication from Public

Name: Candy Messer

Date Submitted: 02/01/2021 05:52 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: I am writing in response to the suggestion to pay an additional \$5 per hour to grocery workers. I understand they are on the front lines, but I don't understand how such an increase is going to help. The additional cost to grocery stores will most certainly result in higher food costs. This, in turn, will hurt families still struggling to make ends meet. And to be honest, I believe those in hospitals are at even more risk than a grocery worker. Stores have put plenty of safety measures to protect their workers in place, and they have already spent a significant amount of resources to do so. A wage increase for workers will also affect payroll taxes, worker's compensation and other related expenses. I encourage you not to rush into this decision before looking at the true financial impact this will have on the local community. Sincerely,
Candy Messer

Communication from Public

Name: Kelly Wu

Date Submitted: 02/01/2021 05:57 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Kelly Wu and I live in District 5. I'm writing to express my strong support for the emergency, temporary ordinance of \$5.00 hazard pay for grocery workers in the City of Los Angeles. Grocery and drug retail workers have risked their lives to keep our communities fed and connected to the critical resources they have needed throughout the pandemic. Many grocery and drug retail workers are BIPOC women and have become the primary earners in their households as families struggle under the combined weight of COVID-19 and widespread unemployment. Working Angelenos, especially families of color, have also not been able to shelter in place throughout the pandemic because they are more likely to hold essential jobs and thus face an increased exposure to the virus. Members of UFCW770 and grocery workers across the city of Los Angeles have been calling on grocery store corporations to reinstate hazard pay as companies see record profits. Major grocers quietly let the hazard pay they once offered at the start of the pandemic expire as COVID rates soar and Intensive Care Unit capacities are at a breaking point. Yet, workers continue to face hazardous working conditions and risk their health in order to provide life saving resources for our communities. This is the right policy for this unprecedented moment. Los Angeles must lead as it always has in fighting for the rights and dignity of working people. Thank you for your leadership.

Communication from Public

Name: Thomas C Penland

Date Submitted: 02/01/2021 07:00 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: Though noble, this is another very bad idea. Consumers are already financially strapped and this will lead to higher prices. Additionally, jobs will be lost as some stores will close and other employees will have hours cut, while the work will be put on the remaining employees. This law, aside from appeasing unions will add stress to too many lives. P L E A S E, do the right thing for once. NO on this idea!

Communication from Public

Name: Kirk Rossberg

Date Submitted: 02/01/2021 02:34 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: Other than minimum wage, the city should never dictate wages for the private sector. How is it decided that people working in grocery and drug stores are heroes and people in other work sectors are not? This is a very slippery slope and I strongly suggest that the City Council think long and hard before making such an unprecedented change in how wages are set. 1. This will put more people out of work 2. This will make it harder for those who are out of work to purchase products for their families 3. This will hurt every brick and mortar store and force more small businesses to shut their stores Please run some more studies and talk to your local business owners before it's too late.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 02/01/2021 02:46 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: I support a hazard pay wage increase for grocery store workers. The increase should be OVER \$5. This is an ongoing emergency. Grocery workers are getting sick and putting their lives at risk.

Communication from Public

Name: Beth Read

Date Submitted: 01/31/2021 02:44 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: Please ensure that frontline grocery workers receive hazard pay - they have kept our society alive in this awful pandemic and they deserve to be well compensated commensurate to how profoundly important their jobs are.

Communication from Public

Name: Zakia khan

Date Submitted: 01/29/2021 07:25 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: Helping people just not for our salary it's because we love o helps others. Already had COVID. Facing lot of physical problems but still working.

Communication from Public

Name: Olga

Date Submitted: 01/29/2021 07:46 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: All grocery employees deserve this pay. Thank you

Communication from Public

Name: Marlen

Date Submitted: 01/29/2021 08:24 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: Los trabajadores esenciales nos merecemos el aumento de los \$5 porque estamos expuestos al Covid-19 .Muchas veces ,sin nosotros saberlo,Tenemos que atender clientes que saben que están positivos al virus no respetan la cuarentena y salen a las tiendas . Algunos ya nos contagiamos y gracias a Dios nos curamos .

Communication from Public

Name: Rodney Cody

Date Submitted: 01/30/2021 08:50 AM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: Workers in grocery stores deserve hazard pay do to the fact that we are in DIRECT contact with people ALL DAY. We have to deal with people not wanting to wear a mask as well as people who may be COVID positive but refuse to quarantine. We provide a service to the public that is a essential part of living, which is being able to buy food which we need to live as well as hygiene items and more. These are TRYING TIMES right now and we deserve better as grocery store workers.

Communication from Public

Name: Claire Vela

Date Submitted: 01/30/2021 09:45 AM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: Without grocery workers, one of our basic needs would have broken down. They at the MINIMUM extra pay for putting their lives and the lives of people in their households at risk.

Communication from Public

Name: Bryan

Date Submitted: 01/30/2021 12:00 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: We risk our lives, the lives of our family to give great customer service. With cut back hours, I feel hazard pay should be enforced, and some compensation for food. We Love serving all people, and deserve a little respect, our lives are on the line everyday. Please care about all of us working so hard.

Communication from Public

Name:

Date Submitted: 01/30/2021 12:08 PM

Council File No: 20-1609

Comments for Public Posting: We need your help, this multi billion dollar Co. Could help us with food compensation, hazard pay should be given. Not only our lives are in danger, our family's as well. Please help those in need, risking our lives everyday, to better serve our community. Sick people come in my store all day long, please do the right thing for us who work so hard, while they get richer by the hour. Thank You, and may God be with us all.