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Via email to eric.villanueva@lacity.org

Members of the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee:

We share a commitment to protecting and enhancing Los Angeles' reputation as a destination for world travelers and as a gateway to all that Southern California has to offer.

It is in this spirit that I write to support the voluntary housing and conditional use permit components of the proposed ordinance the Los Angeles City Council is considering, which is a compromise to Unite Here Local 11's "Homeless in Hotels" ballot measure. The proposed new structured program removes significant safety risks for hotel employees and visitors concerned about turning every hotel in Los Angeles into temporary homeless shelters.

The proposal will formalize a voluntary housing program that will replace the union's March 5, 2024 ballot measure, which mandated hotel housekeepers become the first line of care for unhoused Angelenos.

On behalf of California's 235,000 hotel employees, I am grateful that Council President Krekorian and his colleagues are finding a path to a common-sense solution that will protect hotel employees from the ballot measure proponent's very harmful proposal.

The ordinance ensures that our hotel community is thriving and able to continue providing excellent careers and economic benefits to our iconic neighborhoods throughout Los Angeles.

It is encouraging that City leaders have led us to this compromise that protects our hotel employees – especially housekeepers, our guests and Los Angeles' reputation.

Sincerely,

Lynn Mohrfeld
President & CEO
California Hotel & Lodging Association