

Communication from Public

Name: Clarissa Woo Hermosillo

Date Submitted: 02/20/2024 04:00 PM

Council File No: 14-1371-S13

Comments for Public Posting: Dear Los Angeles City Council Members: The American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California (ACLU SoCal) writes to express our strong support of the Los Angeles City Council motion to amend the Los Angeles Living Wage Ordinance and the Los Angeles Hotel Worker Minimum Wage Ordinance requiring \$25/hour now and adjustment to \$30/hour by 2028 and ensuring quality healthcare and worker protections. As an organization dedicated to defending and ensuring that the rights and liberties enshrined in the Constitution and Bill of Rights apply to all people, the ACLU affirms that healthcare and housing are civil rights and is in full support of this motion as a matter of racial and economic justice. We encourage LA City leaders to act with urgency and approve this opportunity to provide stronger protections for LA tourism workers and their families. Now is the time to lead. This motion was introduced in April of 2023, almost nine months ago. Tourism workers continue to serve as the backbone of our economy in Los Angeles – steadily throughout the busy holiday season and in preparation for upcoming large-scale events – yet they struggle to keep a roof over their heads as housing costs continue to skyrocket throughout Los Angeles. In contrast to the tourism industry’s steady and increasingly profitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, tourism workers are disproportionately rent-burdened, sometimes paying well beyond 50% of their incomes towards rent. It’s time for the workers at LAX and hotels to receive their fair share of the profitable tourism industry’s profits to be able to stay housed, afford their basic human needs, and sustain their families. In addition, many tourism workers, who were among many frontline workers who bore the brunt of the pandemic, still lack quality health care. In solidarity with our Tourism Workers Rising partners, we are calling for the Council's support to ensure tourism workers receive family-sustaining wages, quality health care, and workplace protections. The LA City Council has the power to ensure these members of our community are healthy and housed. Los Angeles should and can be a place where everyone can thrive. We urge you to move this policy forward without delay. Sincerely, Clarissa Woo Hermosillo Director of Economic Justice/Deputy Director of Advocacy ACLU of Southern California



RE: Council File: 14-1371-S13 – Support

February 20, 2024

Dear Los Angeles City Council Members:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California (ACLU SoCal) writes to express our strong support of the Los Angeles City Council motion to amend the Los Angeles Living Wage Ordinance and the Los Angeles Hotel Worker Minimum Wage Ordinance requiring \$25/hour now and adjustment to \$30/hour by 2028 and ensuring quality healthcare and worker protections.

As an organization dedicated to defending and ensuring that the rights and liberties enshrined in the Constitution and Bill of Rights apply to all people, the ACLU affirms that healthcare and housing are civil rights and is in full support of this motion as a matter of racial and economic justice. We encourage LA City leaders to act with urgency and approve this opportunity to provide stronger protections for LA tourism workers and their families.

Now is the time to lead. This motion was introduced in April of 2023, almost nine months ago. Tourism workers continue to serve as the backbone of our economy in Los Angeles – steadily throughout the busy holiday season and in preparation for upcoming large-scale events – yet they struggle to keep a roof over their heads as housing costs continue to skyrocket throughout Los Angeles. In contrast to the tourism industry’s steady and increasingly profitable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, tourism workers are [disproportionately rent-burdened](#), sometimes paying well beyond 50% of their incomes towards rent. It’s time for the workers at LAX and hotels to receive their fair share of the profitable tourism industry’s profits to be able to stay housed, afford their basic human needs, and sustain their families.

In addition, many tourism workers, who were among many frontline workers who bore the brunt of the pandemic, still lack quality health care. In solidarity with our Tourism Workers Rising partners, we are calling for the Council's support to ensure tourism workers receive family-sustaining wages, quality health care, and workplace protections.

The LA City Council has the power to ensure these members of our community are healthy and housed. Los Angeles should and can be a place where everyone can thrive. We urge you to move this policy forward without delay.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Clarissa Woo Hermosillo".

Clarissa Woo Hermosillo, Director of Economic Justice Project / Deputy Director of Advocacy

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Hector O. Villagra

PRESIDENT Carlos Amador **SECRETARY** Karriann Hinds **TREASURER** Connie Parker
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION OFFICER Kaz Matamura **NATIONAL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE** Julie Morales