

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Keep LA Housed Coalition

**Date Submitted:** 04/02/2024 01:16 PM

**Council File No:** 14-1371-S13

**Comments for Public Posting:** The Keep LA Housed Coalition is writing in strong support of the LA City Council motion to amend the Los Angeles Living Wage Ordinance and the Los Angeles Hotel Worker Minimum Wage Ordinance requiring \$25/hr now & \$30/hr by 2028, quality health care, and worker protections, as a matter of economic justice, housing justice, and public safety. Keep LA Housed is in full support of this ordinance because in order to keep Los Angeles tenants housed, it is imperative that we pay working Angelenos a wage that allows them to keep up with the rising cost of rent. As a coalition, we work to protect tenants against evictions, displacement, and homelessness. Working class tenants are tired of working hard year after year only to live in overcrowded, substandard, and precarious housing, and to wonder each month how they will manage to pay their rent. Many live in constant fear that they are just one layoff or one unexpected expense away from homelessness. This motion was introduced in April of 2023, almost a year ago. Meanwhile, tourism workers, despite being the backbone of our economy in Los Angeles, are struggling to keep a roof over their heads as housing costs continue to skyrocket in Los Angeles. LA City Council has the power to ensure these members of our community are healthy and housed, and we urge you to do everything you can to move this policy forward without delay. The tourism industry's recovery from the pandemic was supported with billions of dollars of public investment and it is now assured a future of growth with major events like the 2028 Olympics attracting visitors from around the world to our beautiful city. It's time for the workers at LAX and hotels to get their fair share of the profitable tourism industry that wouldn't be possible without them. If our community members are not making enough money to afford rent, they will continue to be displaced or risk losing their homes. LA already has the highest number of unhoused people in the nation, and it's unacceptable that the workers who are the backbone of a major economic engine are already disproportionately rent-burdened. With the current state of the housing crisis and rising cost of rent, employers in such a profitable and growing industry must pay their workers enough so they can afford to live where they work. Tourism workers were among many frontline workers and communities of color who bore the brunt of the pandemic, yet many still lack quality health

care. We're calling for the council's support to ensure our tourism workers receive family-sustaining wages, quality health care, and workplace protections. Our tourism workers are heads of households, many of them are single parents, and they're our neighbors, friends, and family members. Los Angeles should be a place where everyone can thrive. Keep LA Housed calls on the City Council to rise to the occasion and move this policy forward as soon as possible to ensure that tourism workers are healthy and housed.



Keep LA Housed Coalition

Council File: 14-1371-S13

April 1, 2024

**The Keep LA Housed Coalition** is writing in strong support of the LA City Council motion to amend the Los Angeles Living Wage Ordinance and the Los Angeles Hotel Worker Minimum Wage Ordinance requiring \$25/hr now & \$30/hr by 2028, quality health care, and worker protections, as a matter of economic justice, housing justice, and public safety.

**Keep LA Housed** is in full support of this ordinance because in order to keep Los Angeles tenants housed, it is imperative that we pay working Angelenos a wage that allows them to keep up with the rising cost of rent. As a coalition, we work to protect tenants against evictions, displacement, and homelessness. Working class tenants are tired of working hard year after year only to live in overcrowded, substandard, and precarious housing, and to wonder each month how they will manage to pay their rent. Many live in constant fear that they are just one layoff or one unexpected expense away from homelessness.

This motion was introduced in April of 2023, almost a year ago. Meanwhile, tourism workers, despite being the backbone of our economy in Los Angeles, are struggling to keep a roof over their heads as housing costs continue to skyrocket in Los Angeles. LA City Council has the power to ensure these members of our community are healthy and housed, and we urge you to do everything you can to move this policy forward without delay.

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Tourism workers were among many frontline workers and communities of color who bore the brunt of the pandemic, yet many still lack quality health care. We're calling for the council's support to ensure our tourism workers receive family-sustaining wages, quality health care, and workplace protections.

Our tourism workers are heads of households, many of them are single parents, and they're our neighbors, friends, and family members. Los Angeles should be a place where everyone can thrive.

**Keep LA Housed** calls on the City Council to rise to the occasion and move this policy forward as soon as possible to ensure that tourism workers are healthy and housed.