

Communication from Public

Name: Tricia La Belle

Date Submitted: 01/22/2021 12:00 PM

Council File No: 20-0147-S39

Comments for Public Posting: As of Mid Summer last year, all financial aid to the restaurant, bar, nightclub and live entertainment venues has been exhausted. Our industry is utterly broke with millions of dollars of debt. This ordinance is a further blow to an already eviscerated industry, not only making this ordinance law upon all of our small businesses to pay two weeks of compensation for sick leave, but to punish the businesses with extraordinary penalties is truly unconscionable if anyone on our city council wants our businesses to ever be able to re-open. All while we are destroying neighborhoods and communities across our city with rising crime, graffiti, un-kept streets, boarded up buildings and increasing homelessness. This again, is a clear indication how our city council has absolutely no clue the impact COVID19 Mandatory closures has had intimately on our industry, the lack of financial aid to our industry and the incredible debt that is mounting daily for an entire year to each and every restaurant, bar, nightclub, hotel, live entertainment business in this city in insurmountable. Where do you expect businesses to attain this kind of compensation in a rampant pandemic that is of no fault to any business owner? How do you expect our businesses to ever open again when financial aid has been a pittance of what is needed. This industry of businesses have been closed for nearly a year, not only is there unpaid debts to vendors, landlords, utilities, lapsed insurance, unpaid permits with fines, but more over there are repairs and reopening costs. This city will be shuttered indefinitely long after the pandemic may be considered over if this city continues to place more costly burdens, bureaucracy as well as additional legal actions on it's small businesses. This isn't a cry this is a demand that our city council WAKE UP to the realities of a city that is continually egregious to the very fabric of its communities.