

Communication from Public

Name: Matthew Hom

Date Submitted: 05/28/2022 12:30 PM

Council File No: 19-0229

Comments for Public Posting: On behalf of Clergy & Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE), I would like to submit the attached letter in support of the Fair Work Week Ordinance. We are in strong favor of this policy.



Clergy & Laity United
for Economic Justice

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As CLUE, we educate, organize, and mobilize the faith community to accompany workers and their families in their struggle for good jobs, dignity, and justice.

May 2022

Los Angeles City Council

200 North Spring Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

To: Council President Nury Martinez and Economic Development & Jobs
Committee Chair Curren D. Price

CC: LA City Councilmembers

RE: Los Angeles Fair Work Week Ordinance (Council File 19-0229)

On behalf of Clergy & Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE), I want to express our strong support for the LA Fair Workweek Ordinance (FWW) and would like to thank you for your leadership on moving the ordinance forward.

CLUE stands with our diverse faith communities throughout the City of Los Angeles and Southern California who strongly support the upholding of basic human dignity to all people, including workers. We educate, organize, and mobilize the faith community to accompany workers, immigrants and their families in their struggle for good jobs, dignity, and justice, within a faith-rooted framework or racial and economic justice.

The retail industry is the second largest employer in Los Angeles, with over 140,000 retail workers in the city, with a majority of the workers from communities of color and identifying as women. As you are aware, the pandemic rattled this industry as workers in this sector became frontline essential heroes responsible for connecting our communities with the food and resources needed during these uncertain times. Many workers have been forced to choose between their health and a paycheck—and they continue to meet the challenges of the pandemic while big corporations in this sector keep bringing in record profits.

As we move toward recovery from this unprecedented pandemic, a comprehensive FWW policy will make retail and grocery work more just for these thousands of workers, make jobs in this sector sustainable, and will help uplift our communities who have been most impacted by the pandemic. Unfair scheduling impacts a huge number of working families in our city, with unstable work hours upholding a system of income inequality that keeps communities in poverty: workers in this sector are the least well off in the LA economy.

The “Hour Crisis” report released by the UCLA Labor Center showed that 8 out of 10 retail workers in Los Angeles do not have a set weekly schedule, with 77 percent of workers receiving their schedules no more than one week in advance—even day-of and last-minute scheduling changes are common. This instability in scheduling has detrimental effects that also lead to poor health, stress, anxiety, lack of sleep, irregular meal times, missed medical appointments, no time off for emergencies or special events, and little chance to plan ahead for family, school, and additional work commitments..

(continued)

A recent study released by The Economic Round Table found that over 58% of Kroger workers have work schedules that change at least every week, and that 67% say they do not earn enough money to pay for basic expenses every month. Our retail and grocery workers deserve access to high quality jobs and scheduling stability that affords them a good quality of life, positive work-life balance, dignity, and respect.

The heart of this policy will ensure that retail workers in the city:

- Receive two weeks' notice of their schedules;
- Are not forced to work "clopening" shifts or to remain "on-call" for shifts;
- Will not be retaliated against for requesting a change in their shift;
- Will receive additional compensation for last-minute changes to their schedules;
- Will be offered additional hours at their place of employment before employers hire additional part-time workers.

The policy will apply to employers with at least 300 employees globally in the retail and grocery sector, including chains and franchises, covering around 70,000 workers in the city.

We look forward to Los Angeles joining the growing chorus of cities that have passed fair scheduling policies, including New York City, San Francisco, Seattle, Philadelphia, and Chicago. Our essential workers in the retail and grocery industry should not have to keep facing the same challenges that they did prior to the pandemic.

For these reasons, Clergy & Laity United for Economic Justice is proud to support the Los Angeles Fair Work Week Ordinance, and strongly urges its approval by the Los Angeles City Council.

Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,

Matthew David Hom

Matthew David Hom
Faith-Rooted Organizer in Los Angeles and Santa Monica
Clergy & Laity United for Economic Justice
mhom@cluejustice.org

Communication from Public

Name: Manuel Villanueva

Date Submitted: 05/28/2022 12:33 PM

Council File No: 19-0229

Comments for Public Posting: On behalf of the Restaurant Opportunities Center of Los Angeles, I would like to submit the attached letter in support of the Fair Work Week Ordinance. We are in strong favor of this policy.

May 27th, 2022

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

To: Council President Nury Martinez and Economic Development & Jobs Committee Chair
Curren D. Price

CC: LA City Councilmembers

RE: Los Angeles Fair Work Week Ordinance (Council File 19-0229)

On behalf of the Restaurant Opportunities Center of Los Angeles, I want to express our strong support for the LA Fair Workweek Ordinance (FWW) and would like to thank you for your leadership in moving the ordinance forward. Our organization serves low-wage restaurant workers across the golden state by educating them, organizing them, and mobilizing the to see better working conditions in their workplaces. This ordinance is important to us because there are many irregularities and unfair labor practices when it comes to providing a fair schedule to reach a healthy balance of work and life, we want people to be able to spend enough time with their loved ones and plan their lives accordingly.

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Thank you for your leadership.

Manuel Villanueva
West Regional Director

