

Communication from Public

Name: Adena Tessler
Date Submitted: 06/17/2022 05:43 PM
Council File No: 22-1100-S4
Comments for Public Posting: On behalf of the Hospital Association of Southern California, please see attached letter.

June 20, 2022

Los Angeles City Council
Los Angeles City Hall
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012-4801

RE: Item #21, CF# 22-1100-S4,

Communications from the City Clerk and City Attorney, Certification of Sufficiency, Ballot Resolutions, and Ordinances relative to an Initiative Petition regarding: Minimum Wage for Employees Working at Health Care Facilities

Dear Honorable Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

The Hospital Association of Southern California (HASC) represents over 180 member hospitals and 35 health systems, all with a common goal: to improve the operating environment for hospitals and the health of the communities they serve.

HASC strongly urges the City Council to send the proposed \$25 health care worker minimum wage measure to the November ballot so residents of Los Angeles can vote directly on this initiative. We also urge the committee to recommend that the Council conduct a thorough economic analysis to determine the impact of the proposed measure on the health care workforce and access to health care services for the most vulnerable communities.

The measure would set a new \$25/hour minimum wage standard for certain workers at private hospitals, hospital-owned facilities and dialysis clinics. **However, it completely excludes workers who do the exact same jobs at public hospitals, community clinics and health care facilities, including all University of California and county hospitals, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), Planned Parenthood clinics and others.**

There are over two thousand health care facilities, clinics and other providers that are excluded, and the vast majority of health care workers in the City would not receive any benefit from this proposal.

We all agree that health care workers are heroes and deserve our gratitude and support, but this measure is deeply flawed, inequitable and harmful to the workers and patients in our most vulnerable communities.

Passing this initiative as an ordinance, puts City Council in the position of picking winners and losers among the healthcare workforce and responsible for the inequity of this policy.

Clearly, this measure has many unintended consequences, and it is vital that the City understand the impact for the city, workers, health care providers and people of Los Angeles.

We ask that the City Council move this forward as a ballot measure and allow the residents of Los Angeles to vote.

On behalf of the hospitals in Los Angeles, we ask that you support our requests. We appreciate the opportunity for collaboration, and we stand ready to work with the City on any issues impacting our members or the care they provide to the people of Los Angeles.

Sincerely,



Adena R. Tessler
Regional Vice President for Los Angeles County
Hospital Association of Southern California



George W. Greene, Esq
President and CEO
Hospital Association of Southern California

Communication from Public

Name: Shelbi N. Augustus
Date Submitted: 06/17/2022 08:02 PM
Council File No: 22-1100-S4
Comments for Public Posting: On behalf of healthcare worker constituents in the city of Los Angeles, I am submitting the attached letters for public comment in support of item 22-1100-S4.

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

Dear Los Angeles City Council:

I am a healthcare worker that lives in this city and am writing in support of passing a Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as a city ordinance. I know first-hand the sacrifices that healthcare workers have made in the past two years of this pandemic, myself and my co-worker's work under stressful conditions everyday, short, staffing which leads to delays in service, also complaints from patients everyday about something not right. It feels like your in a war zone and there's no one on the way to help. Injuries to workers have increased

We have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis and have tirelessly showed up to care for our community despite high risk of infection, insufficient protective equipment, and long hours of work. As a result, these past two years have resulted in mental trauma and burnout for myself and my co-workers. Together with rising inflation and our city's high cost of living, skilled healthcare workers are leaving the profession or moving to other cities.

Healthcare companies have made big profits during the pandemic, but those gains have not led to increased support for me, my co-workers, or our patients. In a recent survey, 83% of healthcare workers reported that their department is either severely or somewhat understaffed. It is our duty as residents to ensure our city has the best patient care.

I urge you to support and pass the Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as an ordinance. The passing of this ordinance will ensure that we are paid fairly for our work caring for our families and community.

Thank You,

Floyd Jones
4606 5TH AVE, Los Angeles, 90043

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

Dear Los Angeles City Council:

I am a healthcare worker that lives in this city and am writing in support of passing a Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as a city ordinance. I know first-hand the sacrifices that healthcare workers have made in the past two years of this pandemic.

During these 2 years I have gone through tremendous mental, physical, and emotional distress. Going to work, sometimes without adequate protection or resources and having the great burden of possibly bringing this virus to my elderly parents has been overwhelming to say the least. During this pandemic we spend the last moments with people who had to die alone, took care of extremely complicated and ill patients day after day, risking our own lives. Meanwhile many hospitals got some sort of additional monetary compensation for COVID patients, the nurse who took care of these patients face to face saw no type of compensation.

We have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis and have tirelessly showed up to care for our community despite high risk of infection, insufficient protective equipment, and long hours of work. As a result, these past two years have resulted in mental trauma and burnout for myself and my co-workers. Together with rising inflation and our city's high cost of living, skilled healthcare workers are leaving the profession or moving to other cities.

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I urge you to support and pass the Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as an ordinance. The passing of this ordinance will ensure that we are paid fairly for our work caring for our families and community.

Thank You,

Rosemary Noriegia
7028 5th Ave, Los Angeles, 90043

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

Dear Los Angeles City Council:

I am a healthcare worker that lives in this city and am writing in support of passing a Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as a city ordinance. I know first-hand the sacrifices that healthcare workers have made in the past. With the short staffing. I believe it's important to raise the minimum wage to 25 Because the cost of living has sky rocket. With bills, food, family, and now the price of gas no one winning below this can survive. We're living pay check to pay check. One less pay check Away from being homeless. So I urge you to please back this proposal.

We have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis and have tirelessly showed up to care for our community despite high risk of infection, insufficient protective equipment, and long hours of work. As a result, these past two years have resulted in mental trauma and burnout for myself and my co-workers. Together with rising inflation and our city's high cost of living, skilled healthcare workers are leaving the profession or moving to other cities.

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I urge you to support and pass the Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as an ordinance. The passing of this ordinance will ensure that we are paid fairly for our work caring for our families and community.

Thank You,

Rolando Calero
3339 pepper ave, Los Angeles CA , 90065

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

Dear Los Angeles City Council:

I am a healthcare worker that lives in this city and am writing in support of passing a Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as a city ordinance. I know first-hand the sacrifices that healthcare workers have made in the past two years of this pandemic.

I have been a CNA since 2008 and I only make \$21.50. How is this fair?? I have so many patients to take care of and we don't have enough CNAs on the floor so we're understaffed and underpaid.

We have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis and have tirelessly showed up to care for our community despite high risk of infection, insufficient protective equipment, and long hours of work. As a result, these past two years have resulted in mental trauma and burnout for myself and my co-workers. Together with rising inflation and our city's high cost of living, skilled healthcare workers are leaving the profession or moving to other cities.

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I urge you to support and pass the Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as an ordinance. The passing of this ordinance will ensure that we are paid fairly for our work caring for our families and community.

Thank You,
Cordelia Allen
4026 Mont Clair Street, Los Angeles, 90018

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

Dear Los Angeles City Council:

I am a healthcare worker that lives in this city and am writing in support of passing a Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as a city ordinance. I know first-hand the sacrifices that healthcare workers have made in the past two years of this pandemic.

We need relief, we need additional support, and we simply cannot afford to keep up with inflation on our current pay.

We have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis and have tirelessly showed up to care for our community despite high risk of infection, insufficient protective equipment, and long hours of work. As a result, these past two years have resulted in mental trauma and burnout for myself and my co-workers. Together with rising inflation and our city's high cost of living, skilled healthcare workers are leaving the profession or moving to other cities.

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I urge you to support and pass the Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as an ordinance. The passing of this ordinance will ensure that we are paid fairly for our work caring for our families and community.

Thank you,

Michael Chung
5601 De Soto Avenue, Los Angeles, 93065

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

Dear Los Angeles City Council:

I am a healthcare worker that lives in this city and am writing in support of passing a Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as a city ordinance. I know first-hand the sacrifices that healthcare workers have made in the past two years of this pandemic.

I've been working in healthcare for 7 years now and I never earned enough money to move out of my parents home.

We have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis and have tirelessly showed up to care for our community despite high risk of infection, insufficient protective equipment, and long hours of work. As a result, these past two years have resulted in mental trauma and burnout for myself and my co-workers. Together with rising inflation and our city's high cost of living, skilled healthcare workers are leaving the profession or moving to other cities.

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Thank You,
Kade Session
8917 Cimarron Street, Los Angeles, 90047

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

Dear Los Angeles City Council:

I am a healthcare worker that lives in this city and am writing in support of passing a Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as a city ordinance. I know first-hand the sacrifices that healthcare workers have made in the past two years of this pandemic.

TIMES ARE HARDER. AS A HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD WITH GAS, FOOD, RENT, AND ETC PRICE WISE ARE ON THE RISE. PLUS BEING PROMISE A RAISE BUT NOT RECIEVING IT.

We have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis and have tirelessly showed up to care for our community despite high risk of infection, insufficient protective equipment, and long hours of work. As a result, these past two years have resulted in mental trauma and burnout for myself and my co-workers. Together with rising inflation and our city's high cost of living, skilled healthcare workers are leaving the profession or moving to other cities.

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I urge you to support and pass the Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as an ordinance. The passing of this ordinance will ensure that we are paid fairly for our work caring for our families and community.

Thank You,
David Meyi
1113 east 27th street apt. 305 , Los Angeles, 90011

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

Dear Los Angeles City Council:

I am a healthcare worker that works in this city and am writing in support of passing a Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as a city ordinance. I know first-hand the sacrifices that healthcare workers have made in the past two years of this pandemic.

I'm at the brink of sink or swim i'm a part time employee with small children. i have not medical insurance and every time I take my children to the medical doctor it a big hit on my pocket.. still working on getting at least a part time job position where i can at least get medical benefits. Inflation has taken a toll on everything after this Pandemic people and health care workers are suffering from the after math.

We have been on the front lines of the COVID-19 crisis and have tirelessly showed up to care for our community despite high risk of infection, insufficient protective equipment, and long hours of work. As a result, these past two years have resulted in mental trauma and burnout for myself and my co-workers. Together with rising inflation and our city's high cost of living, skilled healthcare workers are leaving the profession or moving to other cities.

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I urge you to support and pass the Healthcare Workers Minimum Wage as an ordinance. The passing of this ordinance will ensure that we are paid fairly for our work caring for our families and community.

Thank you,
Alma Guardarrama
6041 Cadillac, Los Angeles, 90063

Communication from Public

Name: Thomas M. Priselac

Date Submitted: 06/17/2022 04:11 PM

Council File No: 22-1100-S4

Comments for Public Posting: June 17, 2022 The Honorable Bob Blumenfield 200 N. Spring Street, Room 465 Los Angeles, CA 90012 Re: Council File No. 22-1100-S4 Communication from the Rules and Elections Committee, City Clerk and City Attorney, Certification of Sufficiency, Ballot Resolutions, and Ordinances relative to an Initiative Petition regarding: Minimum Wage for Employees Working at Health Care Facilities Dear Bob, I am writing on behalf of Cedars-Sinai Health System to urge you to refer the proposed healthcare worker minimum wage measure to the ballot rather than adopt by ordinance. This deeply flawed and inequitable measure would set new, arbitrary pay requirements for some healthcare workers at private hospitals and health care facilities, while completely excluding thousands of healthcare workers doing the same jobs at public hospitals and clinics, community clinics, Planned Parenthood clinics, nursing homes, surgery centers, urgent care centers, and other providers operating in the City of Los Angeles. In fact, workers at the vast majority of healthcare providers in the City are excluded by the measure. Cedars-Sinai takes pride in providing competitive pay, strong benefits, and exceptional support for all of our employees. At the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center quickly recognized the overwhelming stress and pressure put on our teams, and immediately took steps to preserve a safe and rewarding workplace. We used the same universal precautions and safeguards, consistent with federal and state guidelines, to protect all employees who enter patient areas. We also provided the same level of access to personal protective equipment to all employees—regardless of the job they performed. Going beyond protecting the health of employees and patients, during the pandemic we provided all our employees, including our represented employees, with additional resources in recognition of their dedication and commitment. These included:

- Continued employment for all of our staff by redeploying employees to areas in need of support when elective surgeries and other non-critical services were postponed. All redeployed staff maintained their existing rates of pay regardless of the work they performed.
- Even before the state implemented its COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave law, we instituted a “pay protection” program that continued to pay employees with COVID-19 while they were

out sick so that they did not have to use their accrued vacation or sick leave to take time off. • We gave bonuses of \$1,500 in 2020 and \$1,200 in 2021 to our staff members, including our represented employees, as a mark of our appreciation for their unwavering commitment to our patients. Since our founding in 1902, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center has served the City of Los Angeles and its residents and earned national recognition for safety and for providing the highest quality patient care. Our commitment to community service is one of Cedars-Sinai's defining qualities as a leading nonprofit academic health system. We care for more Medicare patients, by far, than any other hospital in the state. One-third of these Medicare patients are also covered by Medi-Cal. In addition, among non-government hospitals, we are one of the largest Medi-Cal providers. Cedars-Sinai was also one of the first hospitals in the nation to expand its financial assistance program to cover those whose income was up to 600% of the federal poverty level. And our community benefit contribution last year—including the unreimbursed cost of caring for the poor and underserved, grants to community organizations and the unreimbursed cost of caring for Medi-Cal and Medicare patients—was \$758 million. Included in our community benefit, we provide grants (\$30 million last year alone) to community organizations across Los Angeles to address critical community needs such as homelessness and mental health. There is much work to do across our City as we move forward from the Covid-19 pandemic, and Cedars-Sinai stands ready to partner with you in these efforts. However, this inequitable, arbitrary minimum wage measure will only move us backward with its disparate impacts on healthcare workers, patients, and our community. The measure could lead to workforce shortages at smaller clinics and public healthcare facilities, as well as significant cost increases which would jeopardize access to and quality of care for Los Angeles patients. The measure could put significant strain on providers that care for disadvantaged and underserved communities – worsening inequities in our healthcare system. Cedars-Sinai respectfully urges you to refer the measure to the November ballot to allow the voters to decide. Sincerely, Thomas M. Priselac Cedars-Sinai President and CEO



Thomas M. Priselac

President and CEO

8700 Beverly Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90048

310-423-5711
TMP@cshs.org

cedars-sinai.org

June 17, 2022

The Honorable Bob Blumenfield
200 N. Spring Street, Room 465
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: **Council File No. 22-1100-S4**
Communication from the Rules and Elections Committee, City Clerk and City Attorney,
Certification of Sufficiency, Ballot Resolutions, and Ordinances relative to an Initiative
Petition regarding: Minimum Wage for Employees Working at Health Care Facilities

Dear Bob,

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Going beyond protecting the health of employees and patients, during the pandemic we provided all our employees, including our represented employees, with additional resources in recognition of their dedication and commitment. These included:

- Continued employment for *all* of our staff by redeploying employees to areas in need of support when elective surgeries and other non-critical services were postponed. All redeployed staff maintained their existing rates of pay regardless of the work they performed.

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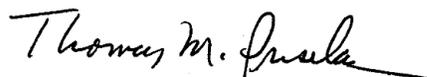
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Cedars-Sinai was also one of the first hospitals in the nation to expand its financial assistance program to cover those whose income was up to 600% of the federal poverty level. And our community benefit contribution last year—including the unreimbursed cost of caring for the poor and underserved, grants to community organizations and the unreimbursed cost of caring for Medi-Cal and Medicare patients—was \$758 million. Included in our community benefit, we provide grants (\$30 million last year alone) to community organizations across Los Angeles to address critical community needs such as homelessness and mental health.

There is much work to do across our City as we move forward from the Covid-19 pandemic, and Cedars-Sinai stands ready to partner with you in these efforts. However, this inequitable, arbitrary minimum wage measure will only move us backwards with its disparate impacts on healthcare workers, patients, and our community. The measure could lead to workforce shortages at smaller clinics and public healthcare facilities, as well as significant cost increases which would jeopardize access to and quality of care for Los Angeles patients. The measure could put significant strain on providers that care for disadvantaged and underserved communities – worsening inequities in our healthcare system.

Cedars-Sinai respectfully urges you to refer the measure to the November ballot to allow the voters to decide.

Sincerely,



Thomas M. Prisela
President and CEO

Communication from Public

Name: Thomas M. Prisleac

Date Submitted: 06/17/2022 04:24 PM

Council File No: 22-1100-S4

Comments for Public Posting: June 17, 2022 The Honorable Paul Koretz 200 N. Spring Street, Room 440 Los Angeles, CA 90012 Re: Council File No. 22-1100-S4 Communication from the Rules and Elections Committee, City Clerk and City Attorney, Certification of Sufficiency, Ballot Resolutions, and Ordinances relative to an Initiative Petition regarding: Minimum Wage for Employees Working at Health Care Facilities Dear Paul, I am writing on behalf of Cedars-Sinai Health System to urge you to refer the proposed healthcare worker minimum wage measure to the ballot rather than adopt by ordinance. This deeply flawed and inequitable measure would set new, arbitrary pay requirements for some healthcare workers at private hospitals and health care facilities, while completely excluding thousands of healthcare workers doing the same jobs at public hospitals and clinics, community clinics, Planned Parenthood clinics, nursing homes, surgery centers, urgent care centers, and other providers operating in the City of Los Angeles. In fact, workers at the vast majority of healthcare providers in the City are excluded by the measure. Cedars-Sinai takes pride in providing competitive pay, strong benefits, and exceptional support for all of our employees. At the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center quickly recognized the overwhelming stress and pressure put on our teams, and immediately took steps to preserve a safe and rewarding workplace. We used the same universal precautions and safeguards, consistent with federal and state guidelines, to protect all employees who enter patient areas. We also provided the same level of access to personal protective equipment to all employees—regardless of the job they performed. Going beyond protecting the health of employees and patients, during the pandemic we provided all our employees, including our represented employees, with additional resources in recognition of their dedication and commitment. These included: • Continued employment for all of our staff by redeploying employees to areas in need of support when elective surgeries and other non-critical services were postponed. All redeployed staff maintained their existing rates of pay regardless of the work they performed. • Even before the state implemented its COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave law, we instituted a “pay protection” program that continued to pay employees with COVID-19 while they were

out sick so that they did not have to use their accrued vacation or sick leave to take time off. • We gave bonuses of \$1,500 in 2020 and \$1,200 in 2021 to our staff members, including our represented employees, as a mark of our appreciation for their unwavering commitment to our patients. Since our founding in 1902, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center has served the City of Los Angeles and its residents and earned national recognition for safety and for providing the highest quality patient care. Our commitment to community service is one of Cedars-Sinai's defining qualities as a leading nonprofit academic health system. We care for more Medicare patients, by far, than any other hospital in the state. One-third of these Medicare patients are also covered by Medi-Cal. In addition, among non-government hospitals we are one of the largest Medi-Cal providers. Cedars-Sinai was also one of the first hospitals in the nation to expand its financial assistance program to cover those whose income was up to 600% of the federal poverty level. And our community benefit contribution last year—including the unreimbursed cost of caring for the poor and underserved, grants to community organizations and the unreimbursed cost of caring for Medi-Cal and Medicare patients—was \$758 million. Included in our community benefit, we provide grants (\$30 million last year alone) to community organizations across Los Angeles to address critical community needs such as homelessness and mental health. There is much work to do across our City as we move forward from the Covid-19 pandemic, and Cedars-Sinai stands ready to partner with you in these efforts. However, this inequitable, arbitrary minimum wage measure will only move us backwards with its disparate impacts on healthcare workers, patients, and our community. The measure could lead to workforce shortages at smaller clinics and public healthcare facilities, as well as significant cost increases which would jeopardize access to and quality of care for Los Angeles patients. The measure could put significant strain on providers that care for disadvantaged and underserved communities – worsening inequities in our healthcare system. Cedars-Sinai respectfully urges you to refer the measure to the November ballot to allow the voters to decide. Sincerely, Thomas M. Priselac Cedars-Sinai President and CEO



Thomas M. Priselac

President and CEO

8700 Beverly Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90048

310-423-5711
TMP@cshs.org

cedars-sinai.org

June 17, 2022

The Honorable Paul Koretz
200 N. Spring Street, Room 440
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: **Council File No. 22-1100-S4**
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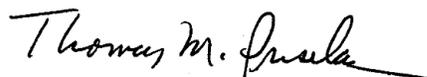
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Sincerely,



Thomas M. Prisela
President and CEO

Communication from Public

Name: Thomas M. Priselac

Date Submitted: 06/17/2022 04:28 PM

Council File No: 22-1100-S4

Comments for Public Posting: June 17, 2022 The Honorable Herb Wesson 200 N. Spring Street, Room 420 Los Angeles, CA 90012 Re: Council File No. 22-1100-S4 Communication from the Rules and Elections Committee, City Clerk and City Attorney, Certification of Sufficiency, Ballot Resolutions, and Ordinances relative to an Initiative Petition regarding: Minimum Wage for Employees Working at Health Care Facilities Dear Herb, I am writing on behalf of Cedars-Sinai Health System to urge you to refer the proposed healthcare worker minimum wage measure to the ballot rather than adopt by ordinance. This deeply flawed and inequitable measure would set new, arbitrary pay requirements for some healthcare workers at private hospitals and health care facilities, while completely excluding thousands of healthcare workers doing the same jobs at public hospitals and clinics, community clinics, Planned Parenthood clinics, nursing homes, surgery centers, urgent care centers, and other providers operating in the City of Los Angeles. In fact, workers at the vast majority of healthcare providers in the City are excluded by the measure. Cedars-Sinai takes pride in providing competitive pay, strong benefits, and exceptional support for all of our employees. At the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center quickly recognized the overwhelming stress and pressure put on our teams, and immediately took steps to preserve a safe and rewarding workplace. We used the same universal precautions and safeguards, consistent with federal and state guidelines, to protect all employees who enter patient areas. We also provided the same level of access to personal protective equipment to all employees—regardless of the job they performed. Going beyond protecting the health of employees and patients, during the pandemic we provided all our employees, including our represented employees, with additional resources in recognition of their dedication and commitment. These included: • Continued employment for all of our staff by redeploying employees to areas in need of support when elective surgeries and other non-critical services were postponed. All redeployed staff maintained their existing rates of pay regardless of the work they performed. • Even before the state implemented its COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave law, we instituted a “pay protection” program that continued to pay employees with COVID-19 while they were

out sick so that they did not have to use their accrued vacation or sick leave to take time off. • We gave bonuses of \$1,500 in 2020 and \$1,200 in 2021 to our staff members, including our represented employees, as a mark of our appreciation for their unwavering commitment to our patients. Since our founding in 1902, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center has served the City of Los Angeles and its residents and earned national recognition for safety and for providing the highest quality patient care. Our commitment to community service is one of Cedars-Sinai's defining qualities as a leading nonprofit academic health system. We care for more Medicare patients, by far, than any other hospital in the state. One-third of these Medicare patients are also covered by Medi-Cal. In addition, among non-government hospitals we are one of the largest Medi-Cal providers. Cedars-Sinai was also one of the first hospitals in the nation to expand its financial assistance program to cover those whose income was up to 600% of the federal poverty level. And our community benefit contribution last year—including the unreimbursed cost of caring for the poor and underserved, grants to community organizations and the unreimbursed cost of caring for Medi-Cal and Medicare patients—was \$758 million. Included in our community benefit, we provide grants (\$30 million last year alone) to community organizations across Los Angeles to address critical community needs such as homelessness and mental health. There is much work to do across our City as we move forward from the Covid-19 pandemic, and Cedars-Sinai stands ready to partner with you in these efforts. However, this inequitable, arbitrary minimum wage measure will only move us backwards with its disparate impacts on healthcare workers, patients, and our community. The measure could lead to workforce shortages at smaller clinics and public healthcare facilities, as well as significant cost increases which would jeopardize access to and quality of care for Los Angeles patients. The measure could put significant strain on providers that care for disadvantaged and underserved communities – worsening inequities in our healthcare system. Cedars-Sinai respectfully urges you to refer the measure to the November ballot to allow the voters to decide. Sincerely, Thomas M. Priselac Cedars-Sinai President and CEO



Thomas M. Priselac

President and CEO

8700 Beverly Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90048

310-423-5711
TMP@cshs.org

cedars-sinai.org

June 17, 2022

The Honorable Herb Wesson
200 N. Spring Street, Room 420
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: **Council File No. 22-1100-S4**
Communication from the Rules and Elections Committee, City Clerk and City Attorney,
Certification of Sufficiency, Ballot Resolutions, and Ordinances relative to an Initiative
Petition regarding: Minimum Wage for Employees Working at Health Care Facilities

Dear Herb,

I am writing on behalf of Cedars-Sinai Health System to urge you to refer the proposed healthcare worker minimum wage measure to the ballot rather than adopt by ordinance.

This deeply flawed and inequitable measure would set new, arbitrary pay requirements for some healthcare workers at private hospitals and health care facilities, while completely excluding thousands of healthcare workers doing the same jobs at public hospitals and clinics, community clinics, Planned Parenthood clinics, nursing homes, surgery centers, urgent care centers, and other providers operating in the City of Los Angeles. In fact, workers at the vast majority of healthcare providers in the City are excluded by the measure.

Cedars-Sinai takes pride in providing competitive pay, strong benefits, and exceptional support for all of our employees. At the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center quickly recognized the overwhelming stress and pressure put on our teams, and immediately took steps to preserve a safe and rewarding workplace. We used the same universal precautions and safeguards, consistent with federal and state guidelines, to protect all employees who enter patient areas. We also provided the same level of access to personal protective equipment to all employees—regardless of the job they performed.

Going beyond protecting the health of employees and patients, during the pandemic we provided all our employees, including our represented employees, with additional resources in recognition of their dedication and commitment. These included:

- Continued employment for *all* of our staff by redeploying employees to areas in need of support when elective surgeries and other non-critical services were postponed. All redeployed staff maintained their existing rates of pay regardless of the work they performed.

- Even before the state implemented its COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave law, we instituted a “pay protection” program that continued to pay employees with COVID-19 while they were out sick so that they did *not* have to use their accrued vacation or sick leave to take time off.
- We gave bonuses of \$1,500 in 2020 and \$1,200 in 2021 to our staff members, including our represented employees, as a mark of our appreciation for their unwavering commitment to our patients.

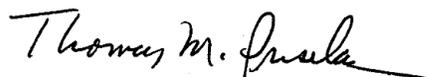
Since our founding in 1902, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center has served the City of Los Angeles and its residents and earned national recognition for safety and for providing the highest quality patient care. Our commitment to community service is one of Cedars-Sinai’s defining qualities as a leading nonprofit academic health system. We care for more Medicare patients, by far, than any other hospital in the state. One-third of these Medicare patients are also covered by Medi-Cal. In addition, among non-government hospitals we are one of the largest Medi-Cal providers.

Cedars-Sinai was also one of the first hospitals in the nation to expand its financial assistance program to cover those whose income was up to 600% of the federal poverty level. And our community benefit contribution last year—including the unreimbursed cost of caring for the poor and underserved, grants to community organizations and the unreimbursed cost of caring for Medi-Cal and Medicare patients—was \$758 million. Included in our community benefit, we provide grants (\$30 million last year alone) to community organizations across Los Angeles to address critical community needs such as homelessness and mental health.

There is much work to do across our City as we move forward from the Covid-19 pandemic, and Cedars-Sinai stands ready to partner with you in these efforts. However, this inequitable, arbitrary minimum wage measure will only move us backwards with its disparate impacts on healthcare workers, patients, and our community. The measure could lead to workforce shortages at smaller clinics and public healthcare facilities, as well as significant cost increases which would jeopardize access to and quality of care for Los Angeles patients. The measure could put significant strain on providers that care for disadvantaged and underserved communities – worsening inequities in our healthcare system.

Cedars-Sinai respectfully urges you to refer the measure to the November ballot to allow the voters to decide.

Sincerely,



Thomas M. Priselac
President and CEO

Communication from Public

Name: Barlow Respiratory Hospital

Date Submitted: 06/17/2022 04:29 PM

Council File No: 22-1100-S4

Comments for Public Posting: Re: Council File# 22-1100-S4, Communication from Rules and Elections Committee, City Clerk and City Attorney, Certification of Sufficiency, Ballot Resolutions, and Ordinances relative to an Initiative Petition regarding: Minimum Wage for Employees Working at Health Care Facilities. Dear Members of the Los Angeles City Council, I am writing on behalf of Barlow Respiratory Hospital to urge you to refer the proposed health care worker minimum wage measure to the ballot rather than adopt by ordinance. Rather than vote on a deeply flawed and inequitable measure, you should refer it to the ballot to let the voters decide. I agree health care workers are heroes. At Barlow, we have supported and rewarded them. But this measure is inequitable, arbitrary and will hurt workers, patients and our community. The measure would set new, arbitrary pay requirements for some health care workers at private hospitals and health care facilities, while completely excluding thousands of health care workers doing the same jobs at public hospitals and clinics, community clinics, Planned Parenthood clinics, nursing homes, surgery centers, urgent care centers, and other providers operating in the City of Los Angeles. In fact, workers at the vast majority of health care providers in the City of Los Angeles are excluded by the measure. The measure could lead to workforce shortages at smaller clinics and public health care facilities, as well as significant cost increases which would jeopardize access to and quality of care for Los Angeles patients. The measure could put significant strain on providers that care for disadvantaged and underserved communities – worsening inequities in our health care system. At Barlow Respiratory Hospital we take great pride in providing competitive pay, strong benefits, and exceptional support for all of our employees. With over 120 years of service to the people of the City of Los Angeles, Barlow Respiratory Hospital is the only not-for-profit long-term care hospital in California and cares for medically complex and chronically critically ill patients referred to us from intensive or critical care units at the finest hospitals in California. I strongly urge you to refer the measure to the November ballot to allow the voters to decide. Sincerely, Amit Mohan, PhD, FACHE, FACMPE
President & Chief Executive Officer Barlow Respiratory Hospital
2000 Stadium Way, Los Angeles CA 90026



June 17, 2022

Los Angeles City Council
200 North Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012-4801

Re: **Council File# 22-1100-S4**, Communication from Rules and Elections Committee, City Clerk and City Attorney, Certification of Sufficiency, Ballot Resolutions, and Ordinances relative to an Initiative Petition regarding: Minimum Wage for Employees Working at Health Care Facilities.

Dear Members of the Los Angeles City Council,

I am writing on behalf of **Barlow Respiratory Hospital** to urge you to refer the proposed health care worker minimum wage measure to the ballot rather than adopt by ordinance. Rather than vote on a deeply flawed and inequitable measure, you should refer it to the ballot to let the voters decide.

I agree health care workers are heroes. At Barlow, we have supported and rewarded them. But this measure is inequitable, arbitrary and will hurt workers, patients and our community.

The measure would set new, arbitrary pay requirements for *some* health care workers at private hospitals and health care facilities, while completely ***excluding thousands of health care workers doing the same jobs at public hospitals and clinics, community clinics, Planned Parenthood clinics, nursing homes, surgery centers, urgent care centers, and other providers operating in the City of Los Angeles.*** In fact, workers at the *vast majority* of health care providers in the City of Los Angeles are excluded by the measure.

The measure could lead to workforce shortages at smaller clinics and public health care facilities, as well as significant cost increases which would jeopardize access to and quality of care for Los Angeles patients. The measure could put significant strain on providers that care for disadvantaged and underserved communities – worsening inequities in our health care system.

At Barlow Respiratory Hospital we take great pride in providing competitive pay, strong benefits, and exceptional support for all of our employees.

With over 120 years of service to the people of the City of Los Angeles, Barlow Respiratory Hospital is the only not-for-profit long-term care hospital in California and cares for medically complex and chronically critically ill patients referred to us from intensive or critical care units at the finest hospitals in California.

I strongly urge you to refer the measure to the November ballot to allow the voters to decide.

Sincerely,

Amit Mohan, PhD, FACHE, FACMPE
President & Chief Executive Officer
Barlow Respiratory Hospital
2000 Stadium Way, Los Angeles CA 90026
213-250-4200 x 3316 amohan@barlowhospital.org

Communication from Public

Name: Bob Quarfoot

Date Submitted: 06/17/2022 03:21 PM

Council File No: 22-1100-S4

Comments for Public Posting: Re: Council File# 22-1100-S4, Communication from the Rules and Elections Committee, City Clerk and City Attorney, Certification of Sufficiency, Ballot Resolutions, and Ordinances relative to an Initiative Petition regarding: Minimum Wage for Employees Working at Health Care Facilities. Dear LA City Council: We are writing on behalf of Dignity Health- California Hospital Medical Center to urge you to refer the proposed health care worker minimum wage measure to the ballot rather than adopt by ordinance. Rather than vote on a deeply flawed and inequitable measure, you should refer it to the ballot to let the voters decide. We agree that health care workers are heroes and have supported and rewarded them as such. However, this measure is inequitable, arbitrary and will hurt workers, patients and our community. The measure would set new, arbitrary pay requirements for some health care workers at private hospitals and health care facilities, while completely excluding thousands of health care workers doing the same jobs at public hospitals and clinics, community clinics, Planned Parenthood clinics, nursing homes, surgery centers, urgent care centers, and other providers operating in the City of Los Angeles. In fact, workers at the vast majority of health care providers in the City of Los Angeles are excluded by the measure. Dignity Health is an affiliate of CommonSpirit- a national healthcare system with non-profit hospitals throughout Los Angeles county and the state. Systemwide, we offer comprehensive benefit programs that include medical insurance, vision, dental, defined benefit pension plan, health savings accounts in addition to competitive compensation. To arbitrarily mandate one element of the compensation package without considering all benefits is simply not fair. For over a century, Dignity Health- California Hospital Medical Center has served the inner core of downtown Los Angeles residents including those in south Los Angeles and skid row. Over 1,900 employees serve in numerous healthcare related roles beyond those of a traditional acute care hospital including outpatient clinic specialists, early Head Start coaches, substance abuse coordinators, patient navigators and outreach workers. We strongly urge you to refer the measure to the November ballot to allow the voters to decide. Sincerely, Bob Quarfoot Vice President