

Communication from Public

Name: Mark Louchheim

Date Submitted: 03/26/2020 09:17 PM

Council File No: 20-0147-S39

Comments for Public Posting: The emergency measures being considered will make it more difficult to operate our businesses at a time in which every business is facing enormous challenges in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. Right now I am spending every minute dealing with this crisis and do not have time to reach out and engage the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce or others. In a quick glance, providing artificial criteria about how businesses should be run without understanding how they work and the potential unintended consequences is just wrong. This is the time to speed up government responsiveness and slow down rule making and new laws. If anything, the city council should look at suspending laws and policies that are getting in the way of solving this crisis such as ways to deal with this emerging crisis – not make new ones. This will be a decision that is made with 10% of the data, but we are going to have to live with 100% of the consequences, many of which will be unanticipated, unknown and unintended. Mark Louchheim President Bobrick Washroom Equipment, Inc. Tel: (818) 764-1000

Communication from Public

Name: Michael Cimarusti

Date Submitted: 03/26/2020 09:05 PM

Council File No: 20-0147-S39

Comments for Public Posting: Article 5-72HH SEC. 200.54. EMPLOYEE REQUEST FOR SUPPLEMENTAL PAID SICK LEAVE. 3. The Employee is off work because the Employer's business or work location temporarily ceases operations in response to a public official's closure recommendation due to the COVID-19 public health pandemic How can a business that is forced to cease operations in order to abide by the recommendation of the Mayor of Los Angeles, be held responsible to pay its entire staff 2 weeks pay? If the city issues the closure and the city deems it necessary that all workers are paid during said closure, than the city should be prepared to pay those wages. It is impossible for us to do so. Without any income, how are we expected to cover the cost of two weeks of payroll? I feel confident that I can speak for the vast majority of my colleagues in the independent restaurant world on this matter. Between our 2 businesses, a 2-week payroll comes in at around \$250K. In order for us to make payroll every 2 weeks, we must bring in a minimum of \$550k so that we can pay our rent, insurances, food, liquor and repairs. These numbers are not uncommon in the restaurant business, our margins are slim and we are always using yesterdays reciepts to pay for expenses today. We closed both of our businesses after service, Sunday the 15th of March. Neither business has made a penny since, but this new ordinance would have us sending out another full payroll next Friday. If we were to do so it would without question be financially untenable, forcing us into bankruptcy and forcing all of our employees off of our payrolls for good. While the intent of the measure is surely not to force small businesses to the brink of clooapse, I assure you that if addopted it will do exactly that for us and countless other restaurateurs.

Communication from Public

Name: Wayne from fucking Los Angeles

Date Submitted: 03/26/2020 11:35 PM

Council File No: 20-0147-S39

Comments for Public Posting: JUST WHAT BUSINESS NEEDS---MORE BURDENS TO BE SURE MORE CLOSE THAT ARE STILL OPEN. WHAT A FUCKING MESS! The Council is a combination of outright stupidity and overall greed. None of you on the council has ever made a payroll. You are just so fucking stooooopid. This is a catastrophe for business and must be stopped.

Communication from Public

Name: Dina Samson

Date Submitted: 03/26/2020 12:34 PM

Council File No: 20-0147-S39

Comments for Public Posting: As an owner of Rossoblu, a restaurant in the 14th district, I oppose motion 20-0147-S39. If passed, this motion would deplete our cash reserves and bankrupt us. We would be unable to re-open our restaurant after this Covid-19 pandemic passes. Please oppose motion 20-0147-S39.

Communication from Public

Name: Jessica Lall
Date Submitted: 03/26/2020 01:50 PM
Council File No: 20-0147-S39
Comments for Public Posting: Please see attached letter.



March 26, 2020

Council President Nury Martinez
Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: **COVID-19 Ordinances at March 27th Special City Council Meeting**

Dear Council President Martinez,

Central City Association (CCA) has promoted the vibrancy of Downtown Los Angeles and investment in the region since 1924 and during these difficult times, we remain steadfast in our commitment to ensuring that our region is a place where businesses and institutions can continue to successfully operate. We appreciate your leadership during this challenging time and commend City Council's efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19 and provide relief for residents, workers and businesses.

While this letter serves to outline our serious concerns regarding the negative impacts of agenda Item #2 the COVID-19 Citywide Worker Retention and COVID-19 Right of Recall Ordinances (CFs 20-0147-S15, 20-0147-S35, 20-0147-S42) and Item #4 the COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave Ordinance (CF 20-0147-S39), we believe that Item #1 the Temporary Protection of Tenants During COVID-19 Pandemic Ordinance (CF 20-0147-S19) is thoughtful and balanced, and it should be adopted as presented. Our comments regarding each of these proposed ordinances is detailed below.

Item #1: Temporary Protection of Tenants During COVID-19 Pandemic Ordinance

We believe this ordinance will provide eviction and rent relief to residential and commercial tenants in a balanced manner. The six month payback period for deferred rent for residential tenants and the three month payback period for commercial tenants is reasonable and will provide due financial relief for tenants while still offering some financial assurance and degree of stability to property owners who must be able to cover operating expenses, taxes, mortgage payments and other ongoing costs at this time. **This ordinance should be adopted as it is written.**

Item #2: COVID-19 Citywide Worker Retention and Right of Recall Ordinances

These ordinances would provide workers laid off due to the COVID-19 pandemic to receive priority re-hiring by seniority and provides protections for employees by seniority after a change of ownership, requiring businesses to rehire and retain employees by the incumbent business, after a successor business reopens following a change in ownership, respectively. These ordinances would severely limit an organization's ability to hire based on their needs, which is more important than ever as businesses must be able to act nimbly to survive this economic crisis. These additional rules would also create extreme confusion among businesses already attempting to process an overwhelming amount of rapidly changing information and requirements at this time, and further depress the economic viability of organizations. **For these reasons, we oppose these ordinances and believe that more consideration needs to be given to businesses that would be further extremely impacted including small businesses and businesses in the hospitality industry including restaurants, bars and hotels.**



Item #4: Supplemental Paid Sick Leave Ordinance

This law would require organizations to provide 80 hours of sick leave to employees during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is unreasonable to place the burden of suddenly providing sick leave to employees on businesses that are greatly financially constrained to begin with and have not had any time to financially plan for such a consideration. **Here again, we are very worried about this proposal and its economic impact on employers, especially small businesses and those in the hospitality and restaurant industries who are already struggling to stay afloat during this public health crisis, and we oppose this ordinance.**

We understand the intent of Items #2 and #4 are to protect employee's rights, but we believe they go too far, do not consider differences in business size or industry and will negatively impact a vast number of organizations' ability to survive during this unprecedented challenging economic time. These ordinances are sweeping policy changes and should not be done without adequate public input, economic analysis and discussion. The City of Los Angeles needs to partner with employers and employees to develop solutions that are feasible, not respond with emergency measures like these that will worsen the economic environment and potentially inflict great damage on our local businesses. These ordinances should at the very least be referred to committee for public discussion and analysis while Item #1 should move ahead as presented.

CCA and its members are ready to partner with you to ensure that our economy can fully thrive on the other side of this pandemic. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. Lall", is positioned below the word "Sincerely,". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jessica Lall
President & CEO, Central City Association of Los Angeles

CC: Members of the Los Angeles City Council