



February 10, 2015

Honorable Curren Price
Economic Development Committee
Los Angeles City Council
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: CF# 13-0991 Economic Incentives for Hotel Development –

Dear Chairman Price:

As we continuously express our serious concerns for sustainability of operating hotels and the deficiency of competitive inventory in attracting major meetings and global events, the Hotel Association of Los Angeles (HALA) is favorable to the City's considerations for creating incentive policies encouraging future hotel development.

However, as we closely review the CLA analysis and previous discussion comments, HALA is concerned with certain provisions contained in the reports. "Community Benefits" should be advantageous to all, not just one segment of Los Angeles. Within this provision is a possible mandate for "Card Check Neutrality," a process that relinquishes the employee's right from making their own individual decisions about whether or not they want to unionize. Federal provisions by the NLRB are in place to protect the rights of employees to choose on their own to unionize.

HALA is concerned that the Community Benefits, which we understand will be negotiated on a case by case basis, will likely include a "Card Check Neutrality" mandate, which will diminish the economic incentives to the point where it will not be practical for new and existing hotels to expand and provide the additional hotel rooms that our City so desperately needs. Therefore, we are proactively asking that "Card Check Neutrality" be completely removed from the provisions of any potential Community Benefit discussions. The removal of such will ensure that there is a fair and equal process and the City will be able to attract favorable investors for future hotel developments.

We appreciate the City's efforts to grow tourism and hospitality through sensible policies which we can favorably support. We certainly welcome the opportunity to discuss further at anytime.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Amano", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Robert Amano
Executive Director

Cc: Councilmember Paul Krekorian, Vice-Chair
Councilmember Jose Huizar
Councilmember Gil Cedillo
Councilmember Nury Martinez
Councilmember Herb Wesson
Councilmember Paul Koretz