

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

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Date of NC Board Action: 06/18/2015

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 06/28/2015

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 14-1371

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Brief Summary: At a duly noticed, Brown Act compliant board meeting, board members passed unanimously a letter to the Council in support of raising the minimum wage to \$15/hour with NO exemptions and the addition of sick days.

Additional Information:

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

HISTORIC HIGHLAND PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Post Office Box 50791
Los Angeles, CA 90050
<http://www.highlandparknc.com>
Certified as NC #33 May 28, 2002

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Aaron Salcido FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
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Rodriguez, Harvey Slater, Fernando Villa

CALIFORNIA



DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

200 N. Spring St. Ste.2005
Los Angeles, CA 90012
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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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June 18, 2015

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and the Members of the Los Angeles City Council
Chief Legislative Analyst (CLA)
City Administrative Officer (CAO)
City Attorney
200 N. Spring Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: CIS on minimum wage: add sick days and ensure no further exemptions (14-1371)

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council represents over 60,000 Los Angeles stakeholders who reside, own property, or conduct business in our neighborhood. Our Council was one of many supporting raising the minimum wage in Los Angeles to \$15/hour pointing out that such a move would bring over 800,000 Angelinos out of poverty, produce over 9 billion dollars in additional consumer spending at our local businesses and create over 64,000 jobs for our communities. Such an ordinance could also address provide protections for hard-working lo-wage workers who lose millions of dollars per year from stolen wages and a lack of access to earned sick leave.

We thank the City Council for doing the right thing on minimum wage and increasing it to \$15/hour by 2020 but want to make sure that EVERY worker in Los Angeles benefits from this wage improvement for all the reasons set forth in Section 187.00 of Article 7 and request in the strongest possible terms that additional sick days be added to the ordinance.

California passed a law last year giving three paid sick days to workers across the state. While this law represents progress, three paid sick days are not enough for families with children living on minimum wage incomes. The ordinances passed by San Francisco and Oakland gave workers five to nine sick days, depending on the size of the business. At a minimum, Los Angeles should follow their lead or, preferably provide better for Angelinos.

HHPNC on minimum wage: add sick days and ensure no further exemptions
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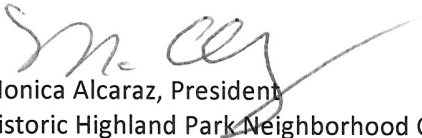
While we understand the reasons for a rolling one-year delay of the minimum wage increases for companies with 25 or fewer employees and for non-profits under certain limited conditions, we see no justification for any further exemptions no matter what the trade-off.

Several different interest groups for various reasons have raised this issue, and the Economic Development Committee from the Chief Legislative Analyst and the City Administrative Officer on a collective bargaining agreement exemption to the Citywide Minimum Wage Ordinance back has requested a report.

We request that these parties use their skills to ensure that no exemptions are granted. ANY exemption of ANY group would be an invitation for companies, especially those who employ those lower-wage workers for whom this legislation was intended, to game the system.

The Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council therefore strongly recommends that enforcement of minimum wage protection low-wage be made a priority, that sick days be added to the ordinance at the earliest possible moment, that there be absolutely no weakening of the ordinance as it currently stands, that the ordinance be sent to the mayor for signature with no further changes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. Alcaraz', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Monica Alcaraz, President
Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council