

Communication from Public

Name: Carol Braidì

Date Submitted: 03/27/2020 12:13 PM

Council File No: 20-0147-S15

Comments for Public Posting: It has come to our attention that this morning you will be voting on legislation that will have a profound negative effect on our businesses that have been forced to close due to COVID-19. As Treasurer of the TCL Chinese Theatre, I respectfully request that you oppose Item 20-0147-S39 and motions 20-0147-S15 and 20-0147-S42. It was not by our choice that we closed our theatres, but rather by the direct order of the City of Los Angeles for the sake of public health. With the closure of the theatre, we cannot sustain income for our employees and maintain rent and utilities. This has gravely affected us and has put us in a severe financial situation. We realize that this is an unprecedented situation and that we are all in this together. But to place this burden on business owners when we were mandated to close by order of the governor is simply an injustice that I hope you agree should not pass. The Chinese Theatre is at the heart of Hollywood and we want to keep providing the absolute best for tourists, studios, and our fellow Angelinos in the months and years to come, post COVID-19. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Communication from Public

Name: Lauren Lemos

Date Submitted: 03/29/2020 05:59 PM

Council File No: 20-0147-S15

Comments for Public Posting: My name is Lauren Lemos and I own/operate/manage/ Wax Paper, (as you know of) a restaurant in your Council District. On behalf of myself and my employees, we urge you to consider the needs of restaurants and the hospitality industry. Many of us are small businesses who will be irrevocably harmed during this unstable time. In the past few days, every restaurant and bar in the City has been forced to close or pivot to accommodate delivery-only and takeout. For many restaurants, it is unfeasible to make this adjustment. While we understand that this is for the good of our community, it has had a detrimental effect on our business and our employees. I know that the City Council has the best interest of our restaurants and our employees at heart. We fully support Motions 72N, 72R, 72Z and 72QQ. These motions will truly help revive the hospitality industry after we come out of this public health crisis and allow us to take care of our employees during this extremely difficult time. Our employees are family to us. Since the mandated shut-down, we have done everything possible to take care of them for as long as this may last and work to make sure they have a job to come back to when we are able to re-open. However, I worry that some of the proposed motions will end up hurting our employees more than they would help them. Please Oppose Motions 72J and 72KK. Both motions will make it harder to bring our employees back as soon as possible. Although these rules may be applicable to larger chain restaurants, independent restaurants like mine would struggle with these motions. In addition, I ask that you Oppose Motion 72HH, which, although commendable, would be prohibitively expensive and would force restaurants to make payments that, as small businesses, we simply cannot afford if we hope to reopen as soon as we are allowed. Any legislation that puts more costs on small businesses without truly covering the cost will prevent many of us from reopening. At next week's City Council meeting, please understand how your vote will affect both the restaurant employees and small business owners. My number one priority is to support and provide for every one of my employees but I also want to ensure that they will have a job to come back to once the COVID-19 crisis passes. Thank you