

3/31/2020

To: Los Angeles City Council Members
CC: Council President Nury Martinez
200 N Spring St.
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Los Angeles City Council File No. 20-0147-S44

On behalf of the California Work & Family Coalition, we are writing to express our support for City Council Motion 72-MM, which will be presented to you at next Tuesday's City Council meeting as a draft ordinance from the City Attorney. We wish to emphasize the critical need and urgency to ensure that the ordinance contains these strong provisions to protect our frontline grocery and drug retail workers who provide a lifeline to our communities in this time of crisis. This ordinance will also help protect our communities from the pandemic and flatten the curve:

Mandate that Grocery Retail, Drug Retail, and Food Delivery employees are allowed time to wash their hands (every 30 minutes) and that employer provides, at its expense, all necessary sanitary cleaners;

Provide priority access to coronavirus testing at no expense to worker for Grocery Retail, Drug Retail, food delivery workers;

Permit workers to alter their schedules to address childcare and family needs arising from pandemic without retaliation and with good faith effort to maintain hours, as well as offer full-time hours to current employees before hiring new employees.

Require all delivery platforms to register with the City if they intend to do business within the City and abide by a code of conduct;

Require all delivery platforms to provide workers with sanitation and disinfectant cleaning products;

Require all delivery platforms to provide customers and workers with a "non-contact" option that also ensures access to seniors and the disabled.

As businesses close as a result of the COVID-19 virus outbreak, grocery and drug stores will remain open. The grocery and drug store workers that keep business operations running and provide essential goods to the public, are doing so at great personal risk. These protections are essential not just for workers, but also for our communities. It is incumbent upon our elected leaders to enact policies that safeguard workers and the community health and safety during these times. The City of Los Angeles has the power to do it and must lead at this critical time.

In solidarity,

The California Work & Family Coalition