

Communication from Public

Name: Jackie

Date Submitted: 03/27/2020 01:49 PM

Council File No: 20-0291

Comments for Public Posting: COVID-19 has caused so many people to lose their jobs, income, or any ability to get a new job. Asking people to pay rent during this time is unjust and will do a grave disservice to many Los Angeles residents. This is an obvious decision to freeze rent and do what is right, fair, and most beneficial to the community that has trusted you with their futures.

Communication from Public

Name: Paul Pruitt

Date Submitted: 03/27/2020 02:21 PM

Council File No: 20-0291

Comments for Public Posting: Hi, thank you for giving us this opportunity to speak. My name is Paul Pruitt and I'm also speaking with regard to item 4 and specifically the proposed mandatory 2-week sick leave pay. I am a restaurant owner here in Los Angeles and have proudly supported the same values to which the City Council speaks of, by providing hundreds of our city's residents with meaningful employment for over 10 years. With that in mind, there is no foresight or sound logic behind painting all businesses with the same brush and forcing small business owners - to which the vast majority of restaurant owners are - to pay TWO weeks of sick leave which is tens of thousands of dollars for most restaurants, when nearly every restaurant is already staring at a mountain of debt with no idea how to pay it and no hope in sight. To compound this fear and anxiety by then forcing these same panicked businesses to pay this proposed compensation, you will: First, guarantee a staggering record of business bankruptcies who will then be unable to put jobs back into the workforce when the economy stabilizes - thereby denying these same people you are hoping to help of any meaningful and LONG TERM support which is what matters the most. Secondly, by forcing businesses to pay this sick leave, the majority of us who are unable to pay even our existing debt will only ADD to that debt, not to mention the additional penalties and fees if unpaid. If this article passes, the majority of these employees still won't get their money, because there is none, and now you've added to the courts already overextended workload through needless bankruptcy, default and labor hearings. While this might be a less popular talking point - the vast majority of business owners are not independently wealthy and also live Week to Week on limited incomes. This is an unspoken reality. We too are impacted by this and scared. As a small business owner, my reality is also having no income... while also staring at tens, sometimes hundreds, of thousands of dollars of debt. We're not the cause of this horrible scenario we're all living through and we're not selfishly hoarding some pile of gold - We want what you want. We want to win and lose, equally and compassionately. That's all I'm asking for now. We as a city need to find ways to do more to help those in need, unquestionably. The vast majority of Angelenos, myself included, are worried about paying rent and feeding our families. But Article 5-72HH is not

the answer and will only exacerbate the problem.

Communication from Public

Name: Jane Demian

Date Submitted: 03/27/2020 07:29 AM

Council File No: 20-0291

Comments for Public Posting: The Mayor has declared a major emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Even though required businesses are to stay open and city offices are still functioning, workers in non-essential businesses are losing their jobs, and losing income. Many workers are free lance, gig workers without sick pay, and cannot pay their rent on April 1st or May 1st. Unhoused people need to be provided with hygiene supplies and equipment throughout the City, mobile bathrooms, hand washing stations at each encampment. Bring people indoors and allow them to stay in motel and hotel rooms as many hotels are closing their doors. This emergency requires that the City and County help the people who need it. The wealthy don't need the financial help, they have a cushion, but the people who need it are becoming more vulnerable every day as jobs are lost and income dwindles. This emergency must be dealt with understanding that thousands will become homeless unless the present emergency directives provide a moratorium on ALL evictions, allow workers to return to their jobs when the businesses are reestablished, and provide stable housing to the unhoused during this time. Open all City facilities and food services for those who need help and housing.