

**AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COVID-19
RECOVERY AND NEIGHBORHOOD
INVESTMENT**

Resolution

Whereas, grocery and drug retail have been deemed essential workers per Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-33-20 issued on March 19, 2020. Since then, there have been thousands of reported cases of positive Covid-19 in the retail and grocery sector in Los Angeles County. Such positives are significantly on the rise in the recent weeks.

Whereas, multiple new protocols have been put in place in LA City, LA County, and the State of California to protect essential workers, their customers, and the community from contracting the virus including stay at home orders, mandated mask wearing, six foot social distancing, limits on capacity in stores, and provision of paid sick leave. Some protocols have changed norms and human behavior while others have been sporadically enforced. It is a tale of Two Cities, in which areas of low income and people of color face little to no enforcement which amounts to greater risks of contracting Covid-19, while businesses in more white and affluent areas are protected by intense implementation of health and safety protocols. The enforcement even within businesses can be capricious and inconsistent in which it changes based on the time of the day, the manager on the shopfloor, or direction and messaging from corporate headquarters. In some stores window dressing for enforcement exists but the teeth to ensure compliance is nowhere to be found.

Whereas, comprehensive and consistent enforcement is critical to flattening the curve in essential businesses.

Therefore, be it resolved, the City Council of Los Angeles calls on grocery and drug retail stores to prioritize enforcement of the Mayor's emergency order, LA County Health Order Appendix A, B1, the Covid-19 Prevention Emergency Temporary Standard statewide guidelines and universal reporting of covid clusters under Assembly Bill 685; clear communication and education of rights for workers and customers under protocols; a staff member posted outside each store to monitor masks and store capacity; public health councils paid by the employer for active monitoring; paid child care by employer; vaccine priority; and reinstatement of hazard pay.

Therefore, be it also resolved, these companies must take stock and ensure all measures are implemented to the fullest extent so that the City of Los Angeles can effectively address this pandemic and ensure the safety and health of all Angelenos.

PRESENTED BY: _____

PAUL KORETZ (verbal)
Councilmember, 5th District

SECONDED BY: _____

GILBERT A. CEDILLO (verbal)
Councilmember, 1st District