

## Special City Council Meeting (6:00 p.m.) - 02/10/2021

Comments received by the 4:00 p.m. deadline will be forwarded to the City Council and read into the record by the City Clerk. Comments received after the 4:00 p.m. deadline will not be read during the meeting but will be entered into the record for the meeting. Approximately 300 words in total can be read in three minutes.

Email address \*

[REDACTED]

Name

Ryan Allain

Address:

[REDACTED]

Phone number

██████████

Organization:

California Retailers Association

Public Comment - Limited to items on the Special Meeting Agenda: To comment during the meeting, please register to receive a meeting link. \*

Item Number 1

Item Number 2

Item Number 3

Item Number 4

Item Number 5

Item Number 6

Would you like your comment read during the Public Comment section of the agenda? If you select NO, your comment will be read before the Council discusses the item. \*

Yes

No

Would you like to receive a response from members of the City Council? If yes, please select your preferred method of communication and provide your information above. \*

Email

Phone

No Response Needed

Submit your comment below. \*

Dear Members of the South San Francisco City Council:

On behalf of the California Retailers Association (CRA), we respectfully urge the Council to refrain from passing a mandated a wage increase, especially in the absence of a complete economic impact analysis on the effects such a mandate would have on essential businesses, and subsequently, our local communities.

The California Retailers Association is the only statewide trade association representing all segments of the retail industry including general merchandise, department stores, mass merchandisers, fast food restaurants, convenience stores, supermarkets and grocery stores, chain drug, and specialty retail such as auto, vision, jewelry, hardware and home stores. CRA works on behalf of California's retail industry, which currently operates over 164,200 stores and employs around 2,776,000 people—nearly one fifth of California's total employment.

A mandated pay increase beyond what retail employers can tolerate without raising prices or cutting workforce hours will hurt both consumers and our hardworking employees. This is the last thing our members want to do in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic crisis. A number of our members are already offering substantial increases in hourly pay and employee bonuses in recognition of the essential work these employees are providing. An inflexible, one-size-fits-all approach risks increasing the cost of food, grocery, and retail pharmacy drugs and will disproportionately impact those in our communities who are already bearing the brunt of this pandemic. All of this comes on top of the recent minimum wage increase. This is why we would request an economic study before the Council mandates a substantial pay increase.

We request that this motion be amended to include an economic study prior to any consideration of an increase in pay.

Thank you.

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Email address \*

[REDACTED]

Name

Patricia M Bajada

Address:

[REDACTED]

Phone number

██████████

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Organization:

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Dear Mayor & council have great concern over \$4 'hazard pay' for large grocery stores in South City. Are you aware that in longbeach Ca this 'Hazard pay' was passed and Krogers (Ralphs food/Food for less) are closing two stores because of it. We cannot afford Safeway on Chestnut to possibly be closed by Safeway if this passes. Im sure they wont hesitate to close this small store. We lost a larger Safeway on El Camino and promised a New one that has never materialized. Ideally 'Hazard pay' is a great idea..but Safeway is about making money. Concerned they will shut down the smaller store because of it ..Something to consider...

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Email address \*

[REDACTED]

Name

Marcela

Address:

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Phone number

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Organization:

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Hi, I'm in full support of hazard pay for major grocery stores workers. It's about time we support them. I also ask we extend this to other business such as drug stores and other major food retailers or restaurants. It's time to show workers our monetary support instead of just calling them brave. I would also like to see this extended for child care providers and preschools.

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Email address \*

[REDACTED]

Name

Kimberly Hui

Address:

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Phone number

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Organization:

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Give grocery workers the hazard pay. Grocery workers have been working since the pandemic started. That is almost a year of continuing to work in person, risking their lives each day to the evolving COVID-19 virus, risking their families lives, all to provide food, a sense of normalcy, AND A SAFE ENVIRONMENT to the general public. Their work is important and enables us all to live comfortably. Although smaller grocery stores feel threatened, they need to reevaluate their priorities. Their front line workers are allowing their businesses to stay open. Grocery stores have not been forced to close during the pandemic or lock downs, like restaurants. In an ideal world, grocery store workers would get higher wages and more respect for their work. I have family members that work in grocery stores. It's scary to think that with each day they are risking their lives to put food on the table for their families. This city council meeting is happening virtually. Think about the protections we are afforded as privileged people. "Hazard pay" is the least we can do as a society to acknowledge the dangers. Reread the Union's letter by Dan Larson. We need to put people over profits.

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Email address \*

[REDACTED]

Name

Russell Y Lee

Address:

[REDACTED]

Phone number

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Organization:

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Hi, thank you for putting the vote for a hazard pay ordinance on the agenda today. As many cities across the country have adopted some form of mandated hazard pay, this is a step in the right direction to ensure those who have to continue to work, out of financial necessity, are properly compensated for putting their lives on the line so that the rest of us have our needs met.

I'd like to encourage the council to look beyond this mandate for employees at large grocery store chains, and consider the other essential workers who keep our city going. Similar to large grocery stores, warehouse stores, such as Costco, have employees who provide and serve the community while also putting their lives, and their family's lives, on the line every time they go to work. Childcare workers face similar risks when they watch our kids so parents can attend work without distraction.

There is a lot of room for discussion to expand hazard pay to all essential workers who keep the day functioning, so please consider adopting ordinances to encompass all vulnerable workers who we consider "essential".

Thank you,  
Russell

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