

## MOTION

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, grocery workers in the City of Los Angeles have continued to report to work and serve their communities, despite the ongoing hazards and danger of being exposed to the novel coronavirus. Because of the work of these essential grocery workers, families throughout the City have had access to the food they need during this pandemic. However, the pandemic is far from over and with increased case rates, the health threats that grocery workers face are even greater now than when this crisis began.

These essential grocery workers cannot choose to work from home - they must come in to work to do their jobs, which involves substantial interaction with customers. Workers are wearing masks, social distancing, and constantly wiping down cash registers, food conveyor belts and shopping carts in order to protect the public health. Additionally, these workers are continuously working to restock items that households desperately need like toilet paper, cleaning supplies and other essentials. These workers are staying inside with large crowds every day under ventilation systems that could be spreading the novel coronavirus. This puts these essential grocery workers in a position where they must live with the daily fear of not only contracting the virus but also bringing it home to their families.

The number of COVID-19 clusters within the grocery industry in the City of Los Angeles continues to rise significantly. The health threat that these grocery workers face cannot be overstated - recent studies before the current surge report grocery workers to be 5 times more likely to test positive. We are now in the height of the pandemic with a stay at home order in our region and with ICU capacity below 15 percent. The city is also in a zone where there are more than 7 daily new cases per 100,000 residents or an 8 percent positivity rate.

These workers must be justly compensated for the clear and present dangers of doing their jobs during the pandemic by requiring their employers to provide hazard pay at all times that the City of Los Angeles falls under a coronavirus risk level of moderate, substantial, or widespread, under the State of California's Coronavirus Risk Tiers and Stay at Home Health orders.

WE THEREFORE MOVE, that Office of the City Attorney be requested to draft an emergency ordinance that will provide all on-site grocery workers at Grocery Stores with 300 or more employees with an additional five (5) dollars per hour in wages for the period of the effective date of this Ordinance during which the City of Los Angeles is within a Widespread (purple), Substantial (red), or Moderate (orange) Risk Level, and until such time as risk levels return to Minimal (yellow) under the State Health orders.

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