



March 25, 2020

The Honorable Nury Martinez
Los Angeles City Council President
200 N Spring Street, Suite 470
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: “Worker Retention” and “Right of Recall” ordinance (Council File: 20-0147-s15)

Dear Council President Martinez:

On behalf of the California Retailers Association, I am writing to respectfully ask that you oppose the “Right of Recall” ordinance proposed by the City Attorney and amend the “Worker Retention” ordinance, in which such workers will be discharged in order of seniority and have a right of recall in order of seniority.

In these times of uncertainty, as businesses are forced to make increasingly difficult decisions, business, and especially retailers, require discretion to make decisions in order to continue operating. Retailers are fighting to generate revenue that allows them to stay open and not lay off employees, unfortunately it is increasingly difficult to do. This proposed policy does not give businesses flexibility and infringes on the ability to operate to keep their doors open and people employed. This policy will only lead to more business closures further reducing jobs.

We understand the need to protect employees and pledge to be a partner to continue working to ensure as many employees are protected as possible. We want to make clear this is the time to empower businesses and ensure they can keep their doors open, not enact new regulations making it even more difficult to continue operations.

We commend the Los Angeles City Council and your leadership in this time of uncertainty. The many challenges we face today are unprecedented and can only be mitigated through partnership and strong leadership. As businesses navigate this new normal and fight to keep our doors open, we urge the City Council to consider all stakeholders when implementing new regulations and ordinances.

For these reasons, the California Retailers Association strongly urges a no vote on the proposed “Right of Recall” ordinance as well as the “Worker Retention” ordinance. If you have questions, please contact 916/443-1975. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Rachel Michelin
President & CEO

CC: Council Members, City of Los Angeles