

From: Mary Duong [mailto:marytaduong@gmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, February 10, 2022 2:33 PM

To: Mayor <Mayor@longbeach.gov>; Diana Tang <Diana.Tang@longbeach.gov>; Council District 1 <District1@longbeach.gov>; Council District 2 <District2@longbeach.gov>; Rahul Sen <Rahul.Sen@longbeach.gov>; Council District 3 <District3@longbeach.gov>; Jack Cunningham <Jack.Cunningham@longbeach.gov>; Council District 4 <District4@longbeach.gov>; Council District 5 <District5@longbeach.gov>; Council District 6 <District6@longbeach.gov>; Chork Nim <Chork.Nim@longbeach.gov>; Council District 7 <District7@longbeach.gov>; Celina Luna <Celina.Luna@longbeach.gov>; Council District 8 <District8@longbeach.gov>; Lynette Johnson <Lynette.Johnson@longbeach.gov>; Council District 9 <District9@longbeach.gov>; Matthew Hamlett <Matthew.Hamlett@longbeach.gov>; Parker Houston <Parker.Houston@longbeach.gov>; CityClerk <CityClerk@longbeach.gov>

Subject: Re: Long Beach's Recall and Retention Ordinances

-EXTERNAL-

Dear Honorable Mayor and City Council,

I hope this email finds you well.

Please see the attached letter from Clergy & Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE) in support of making Long Beach's Recall and Retention Ordinances permanent policies.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you!

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Warmly,
Rev. Mary Duong, M.Div.
Associate Pastor of First Baptist Church of Maywood
Faith-Rooted Organizer
Pronouns: she/her/hers

Please note that I am not in the office on Fridays, so I will try to respond to you when I'm back on Mondays.



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for Economic Justice

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As CLUE, we educate, organize, and mobilize the faith community to accompany workers and their families in their struggle for good jobs, dignity, and justice.

February 10, 2022

Honorable Mayor and City Council,

Clergy & Laity United for Economic Justice (CLUE, as a concerned community organization of hundreds of faith leaders across Los Angeles County, urges you to make Long Beach's Right of Recall and Retention ordinances permanent policies in our city. The pandemic has taught us that we are more connected than we realize. When we ensure these important protections are in place for workers in future economic crises, we ensure security and safety for our families and communities. The wellbeing of workers is the wellbeing of our city.

Long Beach led the nation in significant efforts of fighting COVID-19 and protecting workers' right to return to work after massive job loss at the start of this pandemic. We can continue showing other states and cities our resilience and the power of communal care amidst crisis. Making Long Beach's Right of Recall and Retention permanent policies is the right and forward-thinking step to build our city stronger and safer for all.

You have witnessed how hospitality and janitorial workers have experienced one of the hardest hits during this pandemic. CLUE has been walking with these workers for years in their struggles for good jobs and dignity. We also fought with them for the right to return to work after being laid off in 2020 on the city as well as state levels. We have heard testimonies of how these policies have saved their livelihoods. As people of faith, we affirm the sacredness of every human being and the dignity of every labor. In the Jewish and Christian sacred text, there is a promise for those who protect and advocate for the vulnerable, "Those who pay close attention to the poor are truly happy! The LORD rescues them during troubling times." (Psalm 41:1)

As the Mayor and City Councilmembers, you have a sacred privilege and responsibility to enact laws that create a more sacred and just society. By making Long Beach's Right of Recall and Retention permanent policies, not only will you ensure justice for vulnerable workers, but you will also make a positive impact on generations to come. The future of our children and our city depends on your courageous leadership today in securing the livelihoods of our workers and families. May rich blessings come upon you as you listen to the voices of the vulnerable and advocate for equity for all.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me via mseyler@cluejustice.org.

Sincerely,

Executive Director