



**COMMISSION ON LABOR  
REGULAR MEETING**

**Wednesday, September 21, 2022  
7:00 PM**

Zoom link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85399338378>

To join by phone: Dial US: 1-669-900-6833 and Enter Meeting 853 9933 8378

***Pursuant to Section 3 of Executive Order N-29-20, issued by Governor Newsom on March 17, 2020, this meeting of the City Council will be conducted exclusively through teleconference and Zoom videoconference.***

***Please be advised that pursuant to the Executive Order and the Shelter-in-Place Order, and to ensure the health and safety of the public by limiting human contact that could spread the COVID-19 virus, there will not be a physical meeting location available.***

***If you do not wish for your name to appear on the screen, then use the drop-down menu and click on "rename" to rename yourself to be anonymous. To request to speak, use the "raise hand" icon. If you wish to comment during the public comment portion of the agenda, Press \*9 and wait to be recognized by the Chair.***

**AGENDA**

**Roll Call**

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Matters**

**Minutes for Approval**

*Draft minutes for the Commissions consideration and approval.*

- 1. Minutes of July 20, 2022**  
**From: Commission Secretary**  
**Recommendation:** Approve the draft minutes of the July 20, 2022 regular meeting.

**Chairperson's Report:** *The Commission Chair may make announcements or provide information to the Commission in the form of an oral report. The Commission will not take action on such items but may request the items be placed on a future agenda for discussion.*

## Commission Action Items

### Commission Action Items

*The public may comment on each item listed on the agenda for action as the item is taken up.*

**None**

### Presentations *(for information only, no final action taken)*

#### 2. “Sweatshop-Free” FY2022 Annual Report

### Committee Updates

#### 3. Labor Education in Schools

### Information Items: *All items for discussion only and no final action.*

#### 4. Update on Fair Work Week Ordinance

From: Commissioner Katz

#### 5. Discussion Regarding Expanding First Source Agreement (BMC 12.26.080) Applicability to Include Privately Funded Development Projects

#### 6. Update on Berkeley REI Organizing Drive

From: Commissioner Scantlebury

#### 7. Berkeley Starbucks votes for Union

From: Commissioner Scantlebury

#### 8. Implications of FAST Recovery Act

From: Commissioner Berne

### Items for Future Agendas

*These items are not scheduled for discussion or action at this meeting. The Commission may schedule these items to the Action Calendar of a future Commission meeting*

- Discussion of items to be added to future agendas

### Adjournment

#### Attachments:

1. Draft July 20, 2022 Meeting Minutes
2. FY22\_Sweatshop-Free\_Annual\_Review\_Final.pdf
3. Berkeleyside article: “Berkeley’s REI employees vote in favor of joining a union”
4. SF Gate article: “Despite CEO opposition, Bay Area REI votes to unionize”

- 5. **Berkeleyside article: “Berkeley Starbucks workers vote to unionize”**
- 6. **Cal Matters article: “Newsom signs bill to regulate wages for fast food workers”**

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*This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the Brown Act, Government Code Section 54953. Any member of the public may attend this meeting. Questions regarding this matter may be addressed to **Joshua Oehler, Secretary, (510) 981-5408 [JOehler@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:JOehler@cityofberkeley.info)**.*

*Communications to Berkeley boards, commissions or committees are public record and will become part of the City’s electronic records, which are accessible through the City’s website. **Please note: E-mail addresses, names, addresses, and other contact information are not required but, if included in any communication to a City board, commission, or committee, will become part of the public record.** If you do not want your e-mail address or any other contact information to be made public, you may deliver communications via U.S. Postal Service or in person to the secretary of the relevant board, commission, or committee. If you do not want your contact information included in the public record, please do not include that information in your communication. Please contact the secretary to the relevant board, commission, or committee for further information.*

*Written material may be viewed in advance of the meeting at the Housing & Community Services Department, 2180 Milvia, 2nd Floor, during regular business hours or at the Berkeley Public Library, Shattuck/Kittredge Streets, during regular library hours at the Reference Desk. The Commission Agenda and Minutes may be viewed on the City of Berkeley website: <https://berkeleyca.gov/your-government/boards-commissions/commission-labor>.*



**COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION:**

This meeting is being held in a wheelchair-accessible location. To request a disability-related accommodation(s) to participate in the meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the Disability Services specialist at 981-6418 (V) or 981-6347 (TDD) at least three business days before the meeting date. Please refrain from wearing scented products to this meeting.

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I hereby certify that the agenda for this regular/special meeting of the Berkeley City Commission on Commissions was posted at the display case located near the walkway in front of the Maudelle Shirek Building, 2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, as well as on the City’s website, on **September 15, 2022**.

**SECRETARY SIGNATURE**

Joshua Oehler September 15, 2022

**Secretary:**

Joshua Oehler  
 Health, Housing & Community Services  
 Department  
 (510) 981-5408  
 E-mail: [JOehler@cityofberkeley.info](mailto:JOehler@cityofberkeley.info)

**Mailing Address:**

Commission on Labor  
 Joshua Oehler, Secretary  
 2180 Milvia, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
 Berkeley, CA 94704

**Communications**

None



Health Housing and Community Services Department  
Housing & Community Services Division  
**Commission on Labor**

**COMMISSION ON LABOR  
REGULAR MEETING**

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

7:10 PM

On-Line and Teleconference (No Physical Location)

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Preliminary Matters**

**1. Roll Call**

Present: Berne, Botello, Harlow, Jones, Katz, Osborne, Scantlebury, Schriener.

Absent: None.

Staff Present: Joshua Oehler

Members of the Public: None.

**2. Public Comments**

None

**3. Approval of Draft May 18, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Action: M/S/C (Harlow/Scantlebury) to approve the May 18, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes

Vote: Ayes: Berne, Botello, Harlow, Jones, Katz, Osborne, Scantlebury, Schriener.

Noes: None. Abstentions: None. Absent: None.

**Action Items**

**4. Presentation and Discussion - Housing, Unions, and CEQA by Robert Selna**

No Action

**5. Fair Work Week Policy – Status update (Botello and Katz)**

No Action

**6. Discussion and possible action regarding the role of the Commission on Labor to provide technical assistance to the community (Botello)**

No Action

**7. Berkeley Federation of Teachers (teachers' union) contract negotiations with Berkeley Unified School District (Harlow)**

No Action



8. **Discussion of Labor Education in Schools Subcommittee updates (Schriner)**  
No Action
9. **REI Labor Organizing in Berkeley (Scantlebury)**  
No Action
10. **City Clerk Agenda Format for Commissions**  
No Action
11. **Future Agenda Items**
12. **Announcements**

**Adjournment**

Action: M/S/C (Botello/Schriner) to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 PM

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_, Joshua Oehler, Secretary



Department of Finance

INFORMATION CALENDAR  
September 15, 2022

To: Commission on Labor

From: Dee Williams-Ridley, City Manager

Submitted by: Henry Oyekanmi, Director of Finance

Subject: Ordinance No. 7,099-N.S. (Sweatshop-Free Procurement) – Annual Report on Apparel and Branded Item Purchases and Compliance for FY 2022

BACKGROUND

On July 7, 2009 the Berkeley City Council passed Ordinance No. 7,099-N.S. referred to as the “Sweatshop-Free Procurement Ordinance”. The Ordinance was added to the Berkeley Municipal Code as Chapter 13.97. The purpose of this Chapter is to protect the interests of local residents, workers and businesses by establishing a sweatshop-free procurement policy and code of conduct that ensures that items of apparel procured by the City of Berkeley or its agents through contracts or purchase orders be produced in workplaces free of sweatshop conditions. By this ordinance, the City seeks to end taxpayer support for sweatshops, protect the basic labor rights and human rights of workers who produce apparel for the City of Berkeley, level the playing field for ethical vendors, and begin the creation of a sweatshop-free procurement policy consistent with federal law and United States trade obligations.

On September 12, 2017, Ordinance No. 7,099-N.S. was adopted lowering the sweatshop free procurement threshold from \$1,000 to \$0 “so that all goods purchased by the City are actually sweatshop free, consistent with the purpose of the ordinance.”

CURRENT SITUATION AND ITS EFFECTS

Section 13.97.090 of the Ordinance requires the City Manager to provide a written report after the first full fiscal year after the effective date of this Chapter and annually thereafter. The reports for FY19, FY20, and FY21 were delayed, but were provided to the commission in May 2022 to ensure the required reporting was brought up-to-date. This report is the annual report for FY22 and is provided within the prescribed reporting period.

During FY 2021 - July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 - the City of Berkeley placed in excess of fifty (50) purchase orders with ten (11) vendors to provide apparel and related goods. The total spend for the fiscal year was \$462,303. Aggregate purchase order amounts by vendor are shown in the table below. The distribution of purchase orders by vendor and aggregate value is as follows: in excess of \$25,000 with five

(5) vendors; between \$10,000 - \$24,999 with zero (0) vendors, and up to \$9,999 with six (6) vendors. The types of purchases the City made during the fiscal year were: uniform rentals, towels, mats, and laundry service of those, camp and sports tee-shirts, jackets, inclement weather wear, protective/safety gear, miscellaneous apparel, and branded item goods.

**FY 2022 APPAREL & ACCESSORIES PURCHASES BY VENDOR**

<b>Vendor ID</b>	<b>Vendor Name</b>	<b>FY22 Spend</b>	<b>Products (Departments)</b>
5321	Alliance Graphics	\$ 4,368	Tee Shirts (PRW, IT)
17525	Aramark	\$ 211,500	Uniform rentals, towels, rugs, safety clothing, laundry service (PW, PRW, BFD)
19380	Gall's, LLC	\$ 72,893	Uniforms, safety supplies (BPF, AC)
232	L.N. Curtis & Sons	\$ 103,371	Protective Clothing (BFD)
28488	Matrix Promotional	\$ 28,221	Shirts, Promo Items (PRW)
8309	West Marine Pro	\$ 5,235	Marina Supplies (Marina)
12808	Bob Barker Company	\$ 2,844	Health care uniforms/supplies (HHCS)
20144	4Imprint	\$ 30,932	Branded goods, bags (PH, BPL, PW, MRNA, HHCS)
52720	Express Shirt Printing	\$ 520	Safety Vests (PLNG)
22943	Mallory Safety	\$ 2,169	Rain & Safety Jackets (PW)
28421	Full Source	\$ 250	Logo Jackets (PRW)
	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 462,303</b>	

Uniform rental and laundering (including floor mats) made up the single largest share of total apparel and branded item expenditures for the fiscal year at 46%; Aramark is the contracted vendor. Galls and L.N. Curtis provided public safety uniforms and supplies at 38% of the spend combined. Each vendor attests to understand the ordinance, and specifically that should its facilities, or those of any manufacturer be found to be out of compliance with any provisions of the Chapter and fails to take reasonable steps within a certain time period specified by the City of Berkeley, it risks the potential of contract termination.

Full Source (vendor 28421 above) did not provide the affidavit. Full Source provided an email from their supplier stating that the supplier was certified as Sweat-free, but not the actual certification. General Services did not discover, nor did it receive notice of, any alleged violations of the Sweatshop-Free Procurement Ordinance No. 7,099-N.S. There were no exceptions to the ordinance approved by the City Manager.

FUTURE ACTION

General Services monitors requisitions from departments to ensure the sweatshop-free policy is communicated to departments and vendors. General Services works with staff and vendors to ensure vendors are up-to-date on their attestation of compliance. The City maintains its membership in the Sweat-free Procurement Consortium with General Services staff representing the City in that association.

CONTACT PERSON

Darryl Sweet, General Services Manager, Finance, 510-981-7329

Berkeleyside

## BUSINESS

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# Berkeley's REI employees vote in favor of joining a union

REI management and United Food and Commercial Workers Local 5 have five days to challenge the election before it is certified.

By Pamela Turntine

August 25, 2022, 1:57 pm

Berkeley's REI store became the second unionized location of the outdoor retailer in the country after employees voted Thursday in favor of joining Hayward's **United Food and Commercial Workers Local 5**.

Last month, members of the San Pablo Avenue store's **organizing committee sent a letter** to the management after a "strong majority" of the eligible employees expressed support for unionizing.

On Thursday, the National Labor Relations Board conducted the election, and 56 of the 116 eligible voters cast a "yes" vote to join UFCW Local 5. There were 38 "no" votes and one vote was challenged.

"Improving our daily experience and having our needs met by management with a union contract will help us better serve our REI community," REI employee Sharon Delap said in a statement.

Both sides have five days to file objections to the election, and if there are none, the vote will be certified and REI must start bargaining in good faith with its employees, said Kayla Blado, spokesperson for the NLRB.

"As we have said throughout this process, REI believes in the right of every employee to vote for or against union representation," REI national headquarters said in a statement released after the vote. "We fully

supported the vote process in Berkeley and will continue to support our employees going forward.”

The Berkeley store, which opened in 1975, joins **Manhattan's REI**, which voted to join a union earlier this year.

UFCW International Vice President David Young said in a statement that “REI workers in Berkeley have shown for a second time that REI workers are ready to stand shoulder-to-shoulder and fight for the future they deserve.”

“Their victory, just like REI Soho’s victory in New York, will serve as an inspiration for their colleagues across the country.”

10 comments

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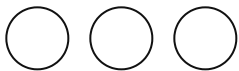
**Local**

# Despite CEO opposition, Bay Area REI votes to unionize



**Alex Shultz, SFGATE**

Updated: Aug. 25, 2022 3:02 p.m.



[Read More](#)



The exterior of the REI store on San Pablo Ave. in Berkeley.  
Yelp / Saemlinh I.

A Bay Area REI store voted to unionize on Thursday by a margin of 56 in favor, 38 against, according to the National Labor Relations Board.

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The REI, located at 1338 San Pablo Avenue in Berkeley, is the \_\_\_\_\_ store in

the country to unionize. The first, in March of this year, was an REI in Manhattan's SoHo neighborhood.

## **VICTORY: We voted and WE WON!**

**We, the workers at REI in Berkeley, are proud to announce we have voted YES to unionize with @ufcw5. The official vote,**

**allied by the National Labor Relations Board, was 56 to 38.  
[pic.twitter.com/uX9teo1dDW](https://pic.twitter.com/uX9teo1dDW)**

- REI Union Berkeley (@reiunionberk) August 25, 2022

The Berkeley REI is organizing with the United Food and Commercial Workers' Local 5 chapter. Workers at the store alleged to More Perfect Union "they were perpetually understaffed and overworked, and faced racism from managers."

**SFGATE**



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After the vote was announced, REI released a statement that reads, in part:

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"As we have said through  
employee to vote for or  
process in Berkeley and

the right of every  
fully supported the vote  
issues going forward."

That's a toned-down, slightly more neutral-sounding stance than what REI has previously conveyed to media outlets about local stores choosing to unionize. In February, a spokesperson at the consumer co-op wrote to Mother Jones that "the presence of union representation will impact our ability to communicate directly with those employees and resolve concerns as they arise."

**Top Picks In Shopping**



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Shopping

## Le Creuset's newest color: Nutmeg

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Shopping

## You can pre-order iPhone 14 starting Friday

Around the same time, REI's chief diversity and social impact officer, as well as REI CEO Eric Artz, spoke on a podcast in which they began with land acknowledgments, then proceeded to explain why a union isn't necessary for their co-op.

"We do not oppose unions," Artz said on the podcast. "It's that we don't believe, I don't believe, that introducing a union is the right thing for REI."

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The full podcast transcript appears to have disappeared from the website, but it is still available to read here.

[Read More](#)

The Berkeley REI joins two other Bay Area Starbucks — one in San Francisco, one in Berkeley — that also voted to unionize in recent weeks.



Written By  
**Alex Shultz**

Reach Alex on

Alex Shultz is the local editor for SFGATE. You can reach him at [alex.shultz@sfgate.com](mailto:alex.shultz@sfgate.com).

## Bay Area & State



**SFGATE**

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The shipping container had no windows, and not a human wa

By Madeline Wells

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## Berkeley Starbucks workers vote to unionize

The Berkeley shop is the 16th California Starbucks to join a national unionization effort.

By Eve Batey

August 25, 2022, 9:00 am



Workers at the Starbucks at 2224 Shattuck Ave., next door to the now-shuttered Shattuck Cinema, voted to unionize this week. Credit: Nico Savidge Credit: Nico Savidge, Berkeleyside

### **Starbucks**

2224 Shattuck Ave.  
(between Allston Way  
and Kittridge Street),  
Berkeley

A Berkeley location of coffee chain Starbucks has joined a growing wave of unionization this week, after staffers voted 12-6 in favor of

joining **employee collective Starbucks Workers United.**

There are currently two standalone Starbucks locations in Berkeley, at 1799 Solano Ave. and 2224 Shattuck Ave.; the company has two more locations inside the Target at 1414 University Ave. and the Safeway at 1444 Shattuck Pl. (Another standalone spot, arguably **the city's most contentious, closed its 3001 Telegraph Ave, doors in 2018.**) Only one of those outposts has participated in the effort to unionize workers **that began in Buffalo, New York** late last year: the shop at 2224 Shattuck, right next to **the recently shuttered Shattuck Cinema.**

In an announcement **posted to Twitter Monday** by Workers United, employees at the shop voted 12-6 in favor of joining the union, making it the 16th Starbucks in California to do so, and the first one in the East Bay. Other locations that have recently unionized include **three in Santa Cruz** and one **in San Francisco's Castro District.** According to a May report **from the LA Times**, over 200 Starbucks locations across the U.S. have filed petitions for union elections, and **the SF Chronicle reported** that over 75 stores had unionized at that time.

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BERKELEY, CA – SHATTUCK AND  
BERKELEY BECOMES THE 16TH  
UNIONIZED STORE IN CALIFORNIA  
VOTING 12-6!!!! LETS GO  
**pic.twitter.com/uPx9WcqT5f**

— Starbucks Workers United –  
California (@sbwuca) **August 22, 2022**

Workers at many of the Starbucks that have voted to unionize in recent months have characterized working conditions that included **unexpected cuts to hours** and a **lack of protection from aggressive patrons.**

It's unclear if those stressors are what prompted the Berkeley location to unionize: An organizing partner for the Berkeley effort arranged an interview with Nosh but didn't appear, and follow-up attempts to obtain comment were not responded to as of publication time.

But in **an interview with The Daily Californian**, worker Susie Miller said that “we saw that we had a lot in common with these other stores ... A lot of the same struggles of not having a voice in our workplace, of not getting the support from Starbucks, the benefits from Starbucks or the pay, frankly, that we needed.”



According to Miller, workers started an organization effort in May, and held a vote with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) — which oversees U.S. unionization activities — the count of which was announced on Monday.

According to an NLRB spokesperson, after the vote, Starbucks has five business days to submit objections to the vote count. If none are filed, the results will be certified and the company must begin bargaining in good faith with union representatives.

Starbucks did not respond to requests for comment from Nosh, but **told Recode in April that** “we’ve been clear in our belief that we are better together as partners, without a union between us.”

In a complaint filed by the NLRB this week and **reported on by the Washington Post**, a plan announced in April by Starbucks chairman and CEO Howard Shultz **to offer “improved benefits” to non-unionized workers, only** is an alleged violation of the National Labor Relations Act, and that by enacting it, the coffee chain “illegally withheld wages and benefits from thousands of unionized baristas.”

25 comments

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**CALIFORNIA DIVIDE: WORKPLACE**

# Newsom signs bill to regulate wages for fast food workers



BY JEANNE KUANG , AUGUST 30, 2022 UPDATED SEPTEMBER 5, 2022



Fast-food workers and other SEIU members marched to the Capitol to deliver postcards and petitions in support of AB257 to the Governor's Office on May 31, 2022. Photo by Fred Greaves for CalMatters

Listen to this article

## IN SUMMARY

The governor announced his decision on Labor Day. Supporters swayed moderate Democrats by removing a provision that would have put fast food corporations on the hook for labor violations at franchise locations.

Lea este artículo en [español](#).

On Labor Day, Gov. Gavin Newsom [announced he's signing a first-in-the-nation bill](#) creating a council to regulate wages and working conditions in fast food restaurants.

[The new law](#) will give labor advocates a long-elusive bargaining foothold in a low-wage industry that employs more than half a million non-unionized workers statewide.

“California is committed to ensuring that the men and women who have helped build our world-class economy are able to share in the state’s prosperity,” Newsom [said in a statement](#). “Today’s action gives hardworking fast-food workers a stronger voice and seat at the table to set fair wages and critical health and safety standards across the industry. I’m proud to sign this legislation on Labor Day when we pay tribute to the workers who keep our state running as we build a stronger, more inclusive economy for all Californians.”

Pushed by the Service Employees International Union and fiercely opposed by business groups, the FAST Recovery Act barely passed the state Senate with the minimum number of votes. The vote was just as narrow in the Assembly hours later. Several Democrats abstained; after it passed six switched their votes to support it.

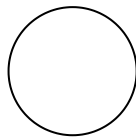
The new statewide council would be able to set standards across the fast food industry on wages and workplace conditions such as safety measures

and even the temperature of a restaurant. Labor advocates say the bill would give workers bargaining power in an industry where union representation is difficult to achieve because of high staff turnover and franchise ownership.

Lawmakers pared back the bill significantly to push it toward final passage after several moderate Democratic legislators balked at earlier proposals to give the new council sweeping regulatory authority over the industry. Lawmakers added a bevy of amendments last week to address the concerns of business owners.

In one major concession, lawmakers stripped out a provision that would have held fast food corporations [jointly responsible for wage and labor violations](#) at franchise locations. The bill's sponsor, Democratic Assemblymember Chris Holden of Pasadena, said that was a "significant piece" in swaying some colleagues.

#### Learn more about legislators mentioned in this story



▫ **CHRIS HOLDEN**



State Assembly, District 41 (Pasadena)

[Expand for more about this legislator](#)

California in recent years has been extending this kind of labor law liability in other industries – from janitorial and gardening contractors to the building owners and firms that hire them, for example – as part of its efforts to combat wage theft. But fast food franchise corporations have long avoided that responsibility in federal and state labor law.

Even without that provision, labor leaders were calling the bill a victory. SEIU president Mary Kay Henry said at a rally outside the Capitol that the bill was a "watershed moment for working people."

Of particular significance: including workers on the council alongside industry representatives, said Columbia University labor law expert Kate Andrias.

## **“Upending our state’s existing lawmaking structure and regulatory platform is no way to help workers.”**

– JOT CONDIE, CALIFORNIA RESTAURANT ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

The United States and California have used [boards](#) for other industries before to set minimum wages, particularly during the first half of the 20th century. But, Andrias said, the fast food bill is “a more expansive and ambitious variation” of those past efforts by having workers sit directly on the council and covering a wider range of working conditions.

Business and restaurant groups, which [spent big on TV advertising](#) opposing the bill, released a statement urging Newsom to veto it. They have said fast food is being unfairly targeted and warned the new regulations would force restaurants to increase prices at a time of record inflation.

The broadcast and digital ads called the bill a “food tax.”

“Upending our state’s existing lawmaking structure and regulatory platform is no way to help workers,” said Jot Condie, California Restaurant Association president, in a statement.

### **Key compromises**

Newsom signed the bill, even though his Department of Finance [opposed it](#), saying it would create ongoing costs and [worsen delays](#) in the state’s labor enforcement system.

Supporters said the bill incorporates their discussions with the Newsom administration.

Aside from the removal of labor liability for fast food chains, the bill's other changes include provisions preventing the council from requiring any new paid leave benefits for workers, or from regulating how fast food restaurant operators schedule workers' hours. Also any minimum wage the council sets would be capped at \$22 an hour in 2023 and subject to inflationary increases in future years. The bill also includes a six-year expiration date.

Some food businesses would be exempt from the council's rules, including bakeries, grocery store fast food counters, and chains with fewer than 100 locations nationally –that's up from a prior threshold of 30 locations or less.

### **Balancing act**

It was not immediately clear how many business or workers would be excluded by raising that threshold. For franchised brands with locations in California, the number of chains fitting the description fell from 149 to 84, according to the International Franchise Association.

The bill would give workers and their advocates an equal number of seats on the council as business representatives. The rest of the council would include two representatives of the governor's administration - from the Labor & Workforce Development Agency and the Office of Business and Economic Development.

Sen. Dave Min, an Irvine Democrat, said he initially "had some deep concerns" about the legislation but supported the more limited version.

"I feel it's our duty to protect our business centers from overburdensome state regulations, but we also have to balance that against the rights of the workers that serve us," he said.

[MORE ON THIS TOPIC](#)

## **When employers steal wages from workers**

Wage theft takes hundreds of millions of dollars from the pockets of thousands of California's lowest paid workers.

by Alejandro Lazo, Jeanne Kuang, Lil Kalish and Erica Yee ,

JULY 25, 2022

## **California's fast food bill could link chains to wage theft and other workplace violations**

Proponents say AB 257 could curb wage theft, but restaurateurs say it could raise costs and prices and fundamentally change relationships with fast food chains.

by Jeanne Kuang , AUGUST 17, 2022

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