

MOTION

COVID-19 - Financial Assistance to Stay Home and Stay Safe if Infected

There are more than 175,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and more than 4,300 COVID-19-related deaths in Los Angeles County, as the number of confirmed cases continues to rise. The Center for Disease Control (CDC), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, among other agencies, all recommend anyone experiencing known symptoms of COVID-19 to self-isolate at home, and not go to work, school or any public area.

The novel coronavirus disproportionately impacts the Black, Latino, Filipino, and other communities of color, as well as low-income Angelenos, both in infection and mortality rates. Many Angelenos work in essential jobs, hourly wage jobs, contracting, or other work that cannot be done from home or lacks sufficient sick leave or job protections.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health has reported that roughly half of all individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 and have been contacted by Los Angeles County contact tracers have declined to share information critical to slowing the spread of the novel coronavirus.

The federal government has denied unemployment and other aid to undocumented immigrants, many of whom work in essential jobs. It is incumbent on the City of Los Angeles to safeguard the safety and wellbeing of all Angelenos, regardless of race, ethnicity, income, or immigration status.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Economic and Workforce Development Department, with the assistance of the Chief Legislative Analyst, City Administrative Officer, and County Department of Public Health, create a program using up to \$25 million in federal COVID-19 funding to create a wage replacement program to provide a minimum of two weeks pay to workers who test positive for COVID-19, quarantine, and participate by providing necessary public health information to County contact tracers, regardless of the individuals immigration status, housing status or criminal record.

PRESENTED BY: _____

DAVID E. RYU
Councilmember, 4th District

SECONDED BY: _____