

Maricela Hernandez

From: Kyla Balkwill <kylasusan2318@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 1:36 PM
To: Alicia Weintraub; David Shapiro; James Bozajian - External; Mary Sue Maurer - External; Maricela Hernandez; Peter Kraut
Subject: Hero pay

Hello calabaras city Council members,

My name is Kyla Balkwill. I am currently 17 years old and I work at gelsons in Calabaras as a bagger. I am writing you all today to share my opinions about the hero pay we might be getting. You recently put out options for our individual payments and to me the fact that option one is even a possibility is hurtful to me and every single grocery worker. We put our lives at risk every day and us baggers weren't even protected from the people around us. We didn't have plexiglass or any type of protection from the customers who would get up in our space and then yell at us for telling them to back away. It is frightening as I was 16 at this time and was worried every day that I would bring this home to my family. I was also in school at the time, and dealing with all of this was a stressful thing as a 16 year old. To have you say that all that stress and putting our lives at risk is only worth \$63 or \$123 is insulting. I'm sorry if that is hard to hear, but to me it is the truth. Every other grocery store is getting what they deserve which is \$1000. Option four is the fairest one for all of us. We deserve to get what everyone else is getting because we still have to deal with customers getting in our personal space and this time it's without a mask. The virus is still around and we all are still at risk. Option three or four is what you should be deciding between because for you to even consider option one saddening. I wouldn't even want to take the money if you guys are saying all our hard work is worth \$63. These are just my opinions and thank you for hopefully considering them.

Sincerely,

Kyla balkwill

Maricela Hernandez

From: Nam Le <nam.le@ufcw770.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 1:20 PM
To: James Bozajian - External; Mary Sue Maurer - External; Peter Kraut; David Shapiro; Alicia Weintraub
Cc: Michael McConville; Maricela Hernandez; Kindon Meik
Subject: Calabasas Hero/Hazard Premium Pay
Attachments: Calabasas HeroHazard Pay letter 06.29.21.pdf

Dear Mayor Bozajian and Fellow Councilmembers:

On behalf of the 30,000 UFCW Local 770 members throughout the region, we wish to express our appreciation to the City of Calabasas for moving forward on gratitude premium pay for grocery and drug retail workers. As you are aware the members of Local 770 have been serving this city through their work since the beginning of the pandemic, putting the health of themselves and their families on the line to ensure community continuity during this once-in-a-century pandemic. We wish to thank the City Council and staff for your due diligence in being one of the first cities in the state, which will set a strong precedent for other cities to follow.

We have carefully reviewed the staff report and strongly support Option Four rather than Option Two. Indeed, Option Four follows the most recent precedent of the City of Oxnard which recently implemented a “Gratitude Program” for grocery and drug store workers. The program provides a \$1,000 grant to each Oxnard grocery and drug store employee working at a store for at least three months over the past year. In addition, there should be no distinction between part time and full timeworkers, which does not accurately describe how grocery and drug retail workers operate. On some weeks they will work a “full time” while during others they will work “part time” depending on the needs of the season. It is better to use one flat rate for all workers which will save time and money for the City to implement. With an additional round of funding, the City can easily accommodate these changes.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Nam Le at 213-399-6755.

Best regards,

John M. Grant, President



Nam Le
Vice President
Political and Civil Rights Director
UFCW 770
T: 213-399-6755
www.ufcw770.org



770



June 29, 2021

Sent Via Email

**UNITED FOOD
AND COMMERCIAL
WORKERS UNION**

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UFCW770.org

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Bakersfield
Camarillo
Harbor City
Huntington Park
Santa Barbara
Santa Clarita

Calabasas City Council
Mayor James Bozajian
100 Civic Center
Calabasas, CA 91302

Re: Calabasas Hero/Gratitude Premium Pay

Dear Mayor Bozajian and Fellow Councilmembers:

On behalf of the 30,000 UFCW Local 770 members throughout the region, we wish to express our appreciation to the City of Calabasas for moving forward on gratitude premium pay for grocery and drug retail workers. As you are aware, the members of Local 770 have been serving this city through their work since the beginning of the pandemic, putting the health of themselves and their families on the line to ensure community continuity during this once-in-a-century pandemic. We wish to thank the City Council and staff for your due diligence in being one of the first cities in the state that will set a strong precedent for other cities to follow.

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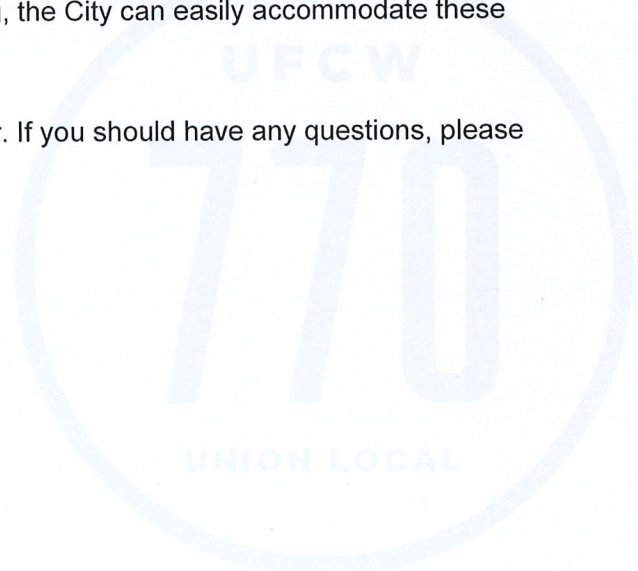
Thank you for your consideration in this matter. If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to call us.

Sincerely,

UFCW LOCAL 770

John M. Grant, President

JMG:mi



TED W. LIEU
33RD DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON THE
JUDICIARY

COMMITTEE ON
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1600 ROSECRANS AVENUE, 4TH FLOOR
MANHATTAN BEACH, CA 90266
(310) 321-7664

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0533

June 29, 2021

City Council
City of Calabasas
100 Civic Center Way
Calabasas, CA 91302

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing in support of the proposal being considered by the Calabasas City Council to provide one-time “Hero/Hazard” pay to frontline grocery workers in the City of Calabasas. Grocery workers have provided critical service to residents of Calabasas throughout an unprecedented pandemic, and I strongly support the “Option 4” measure being considered by councilmembers.

Grocery workers worked hard to ensure that residents of Calabasas had the necessities to feed and care for their families during an incredibly challenging period in our nation’s history. Cities and states throughout our nation have created programs to grant additional pay to grocery workers who served communities while facing the challenges presented by the COVID-19 virus.

I am pleased that the City of Calabasas is considering such a proposal and I recommend that councilmembers adopt “Option 4,” which I believe presents the best option for offering grocery workers this pay. “Option 4” would offer grocery employees, working at least three months during the pandemic, a premium pay grant of \$1,000 and would benefit 454 grocery workers in the City of Calabasas. Additionally, creating a one-tiered system to provide this pay would make these payments simple and equitable to all grocery workers in the community.

“Option 4” provides the best opportunity to honor these frontline workers who did so much to ensure that Calabasas residents had the food and sundries that kept families in good health during this difficult time. I greatly appreciate the work that the Calabasas City Council has done to develop these proposals and I urge you to adopt the “Option 4” proposal.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. Should your staff have any questions, please contact my District Director, Nicolas Rodriquez, at (323) 651-1040.

Sincerely,



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress

Maricela Hernandez

From: Stern, Henry <Henry.Stern@sen.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 6:30 PM
To: Maricela Hernandez
Subject: Fwd: Support for One-Tier Approach to Option 4

FYI

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Stern, Henry" <Henry.Stern@sen.ca.gov>
Date: June 29, 2021 at 6:18:04 PM PDT
To: jbozajian@cityofcalabasas.com, maureredge@gmail.com, pkraut@cityofcalabasas.com, dshapiro@cityofcalabasas.com, aweintraub@cityofcalabasas.com
Cc: "Wolf, Jeremy" <Jeremy.Wolf@sen.ca.gov>
Subject: **Support for One-Tier Approach to Option 4**

Dear Councilmembers,

I appreciate your decision to consider one-time “Hero/Hazard” pay for frontline grocery workers in the City of Calabasas.

Grocery workers put their lives on the line during this pandemic to ensure that residents of Calabasas could care for their families, and I believe tonight’s vote is an opportunity to show these workers we care for them too.

With federal dollars made available earlier this year, I believe the City’s best option is Option 4, to offer grocery employees, working at least three months during the pandemic, a premium pay grant of \$1,000 to benefit 454 grocery workers in the City of Calabasas. A single tiered system would be maximize equity and administrative feasibility, without undercutting the City’s current and historic commitment to fiscal discipline.

When we were quarantining with my 94 year old father in law and the rest of my family in Calabasas, I think of the visits we made to the Ralph’s and what a lifeline that grocery store was for us during that time.

For the brave service of those workers and to carry out the full effect of these federal monies, I hope you’ll see fit to adopt a one-tiered approach to Option 4 tonight.

With sincere appreciation for your service to our community,

Henry Stern

Maricela Hernandez

From: sloane Balkwill <sloaniepooh@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 29, 2021 11:39 PM
To: Mary Sue Maurer; Maricela Hernandez; Alicia Weintraub; Peter Kraut; David Shapiro; James Bozajian - External
Subject: Hero Pay Response

Mr Mayor,

First off I would like to thank you for decision on the hero pay allocation! We as grocery workers are extremely grateful!! But this email is to address my feelings On how you chose to respond to a 17 year old girls email about her experience during the pandemic! This extraordinary young woman is my daughter Kyla! She put herself out there to help her fellow employees! Did you actually read the email? Did you pay attention to how she described her experience? What she went thru? How it made her feel? Or did you just react to one word or phrase?! Her experience and feelings on this subject are valid! How dare you Shame her for that opinion! How dare you threaten to take away what she deserves just as much as anyone else! Just because you couldn't take her honesty and truth!!! She was honest in that opinion! Didn't you want us to give it to you? Instead of reacting to one word that may have offended you in the moment, maybe you should have actually paid attention to the feelings of a young girl who put her life on the line everyday she showed up to work! She risked more then you, I think! And she is braver then you will ever be and she is my hero!!!

Thank you for your time!!

Sloane Balkwill

Sent from my iPhone