

CONSENT CALENDAR September 30, 2014

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Council Members Linda Maio and Darryl Moore

SUBJECT: Review Adding Sick Leave, Enhanced Enforcement, and Other Necessary

Features to the Minimum Wage

RECOMMENDATION:

Thank the Labor Commission for its work on the minimum wage and refer to the Commission to review the correspondence and materials received during the minimum wage debate and return to Council with recommendations for enactment on sick leave, other benefits, and any other features that should be considered and enacted in addition to the wage increases that were approved.

BACKGROUND:

This referral to the Labor Commission should travel with our appreciation for all of the work the members did leading up to their recommendation to Council. As Council moved to enact the minimum wage changes in Berkeley, important features - which the Commission recommended - were omitted, such as sick leave accrual, Cost of Living, health care benefits, and possibly other features. This referral would enable the City to move ahead in making the minimum wage changes more comprehensive. This is a beginning of what will necessarily be a more studied approach as we consider how to advance more just compensation, which we have referred to as a Living Wage. Increases to the minimum wage were held back at so many levels across the country and by various states making it important to make changes where we can, at the local level.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Minimal.

CONTACT:

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