

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
SAN FRANCISCO



LONDON N. BREED
MAYOR

President Shamann Walton
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
1 Dr Carlton B. Goodlett Place

Dear President Walton and members of the Board of Supervisors

I am returning file 200830 unsigned.

When the initial Emergency Ordinance, file 200455, was passed, I also returned that unsigned. At that point early in the pandemic, it was clear that we would need every tool in our toolbox to protect San Francisco from economic catastrophe. I recognized the need for creativity and out of the box thinking. Despite my misgivings about program efficacy, I said we'd give it a shot, and track the program closely.

Since the first Emergency Ordinance passed back in July 2020, the City has received official notice 10,000 worker layoffs. Through the notifications required by this legislation, 1,836 have been offered re-employment, of which 1,067 have accepted. Most of these businesses are larger employers, who have the legal resources to track our legislative process. Even with this additional burden, we have no new insight into which workers accept or reject an offer, or how this legislation effects that process.

This legislation is confusing. It is unclear what happens to businesses that used to be impacted, but are now exempted. The legislation puts new burden on businesses that have been exempted for the last year, and may have gone through several rounds of layoffs and firing without any clear records.

We can't keep doing this to businesses. We cannot keep adding bureaucracy and administrative burden instead of offering support and clarity. We need to make it easy to re-open and rehire.

San Francisco is united in getting everyone back to work. As the City continues to reopen, we know that our economy will need a transformation. With that transformation comes a demand for new types of jobs, new skills, and novel work environments. To meet that moment, we must find innovative approaches to draw workers back into new and better jobs, through new programming, new industry, and workforce training. We cannot keep trying to legislate fairness through bureaucracy.

I am committed to that workforce development, and I hope that we can work together on a proactive, non-litigious path to getting our City working again.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "London Breed".

London N. Breed
Mayor

1 DR. CARLTON B. GOODLETT PLACE, ROOM 200
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94102-4681
TELEPHONE: (415) 554-6141