

REBUTTAL TO THE ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE RW

MEASURE RW WILL MAKE OUR COST OF LIVING CRISIS WORSE

Measure RW is wrong for Long Beach and should not have been rushed to the ballot, which is costing taxpayers \$1.3 million.

The City Council failed to perform an economic impact economy study, even after city staff warned that Measure RW could result in lost local jobs and reduced tax revenue. With Long Beach facing potential budget deficits, Measure RW could force the city to **cut essential services** like public safety or **raise taxes on working families** who are already struggling to make ends meet.

What's more, while Measure RW would raise the minimum wage to nearly \$30 for a few workers, it could lead to **HIGHER RENT** for all renters in Long Beach. A 2022 study published in the Journal of Urban Economics found that landlords increase rents within three months of a minimum wage hike. Measure RW is simply unaffordable for Long Beach residents.

MEASURE RW IS AN ATTACK ON VOTER RIGHTS IN LONG BEACH

Measure RW takes away our guaranteed right to vote on future amendments. Instead, it gives politicians the power to make future changes to the measure without voter approval. This **strips away our long-held right to vote** on future changes.

MEASURE RW'S SPECIAL INTEREST AND CORPORATE LOOPHOLE

Measure RW contains a **special interest loophole** that will exempt some large, corporate hotels — allowing them to avoid paying the minimum wage mandates. This is unfair to Long Beach small businesses and family-run hotels in Long Beach who will not be able to afford the massive increase in operating costs.

Vote NO on Measure RW.

Sarah Wiltfong
Director of Advocacy, Los Angeles County Business Federation