



MAYOR ROBERT GARCIA
CITY OF LONG BEACH

March 16, 2022

The Honorable Robert C. Scott
U.S. House of Representatives
2328 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Support for the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act of 2021

Dear Representative Scott,

On behalf of the City of Long Beach, I write in support of the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act of 2021. On February 15, 2022, the Long Beach City Council unanimously approved the City's 2022 Federal Legislative Agenda, which includes support for policies and legislation that protect workers' rights to organize, engage in collective bargaining, and negotiate with employers.

Long Beach has been a leader in advancing workers' rights locally, and we have seen firsthand how these policies help to rebuild the middle class and improve the lives of underrepresented community members. In 2015, the Long Beach City Council approved a citywide [Project Labor Agreement](#) to prioritize employment opportunities for local residents, especially disadvantaged workers and veterans; provide workforce development training; and ensure prevailing wages on key City projects. Furthermore, given the disproportionate impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on lower-income community members in the hospitality and service industry sectors, the City Council implemented an extra \$4 per hour "hero pay" policy for grocery workers and adopted worker retention and recall policies that have since become permanent.

Worker protections are essential to the livelihood of our constituents and the long-term resilience of our local economy, and the PRO Act would help to extend protections nationwide. The legislation would strengthen the right to organize, enable accountability measures to ensure workers' rights are upheld by employers, and secure union elections free from interference.

For these reasons, the City supports the PRO Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Garcia", written over a white background.

Mayor Robert Garcia
City of Long Beach

cc: The Honorable Senator Dianne Feinstein
The Honorable Senator Alex Padilla
The Honorable Congressman Alan Lowenthal, 47th District
The Honorable Congressmember Nanette Barragan, 44th District