

Amend Resolution 31695 to clarify recitals.

Sponsor: Harrell

WHEREAS, hotel employers and hotel employees are vital contributors to the Seattle community, fueling an industry that contributes over \$6 billion to the local economy; and

WHEREAS, the Seattle hospitality industry also receives significant public support through public investments like the \$1.6 billion dollar expansion of the Washington State Convention Center; and

WHEREAS, the hospitality industry is a crucial source of accessible employment for women, immigrants, and people of color in Seattle, as more than 80% of hotel housekeepers are women and a majority of hotel housekeepers are immigrants; and

~~WHEREAS, a recent survey of Seattle hotel workers showed that 53% of hotel housekeepers had experienced sexual harassment and 47% had seen a naked guest at least once in her career~~
providing housekeeping services can be difficult, labor-intensive work that can potentially lead to physical ailments or in some cases even injuries for housekeepers; and

WHEREAS, housekeepers face cultural, language, and other barriers to reporting harassment and assault committed by guests; and

~~WHEREAS, 96% of Seattle hotel housekeepers surveyed had experienced pain as a result of their work and 40% of housekeepers have had to take time off of work as a result of injury~~
hotel workers cleaning rooms and providing other services are often alone and potentially in a vulnerable position; and

WHEREAS, hospitality workers have the lowest rate of access to employer offered health insurance in the state of Washington; and

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1 WHEREAS, Initiative 124 would prevent sexual harassment and assault in hotels by requiring
2 guest notification of employee protections, providing workers with panic buttons,
3 standardizing hotels' responses to accusations against guests, and banning known
4 harassers from hotels; and

5 WHEREAS, Initiative 124 would reduce workplace injury and pain for hotel housekeepers by
6 reducing housekeeping workloads for employees of large hotels; and

7 WHEREAS, Initiative 124 would improve access to affordable family medical coverage to
8 workers at large hotels who earn at or below 400% of the federal poverty line; and

9 WHEREAS, Initiative 124 would ~~make our hospitality industry more reflective of~~ be a
10 significant step forward in advancing Seattle's values of equity, inclusion, and gender and
11 racial justice; and

12 WHEREAS, after notice in accordance with RCW 42.17A.555 and Seattle Municipal Code
13 Section 2.04.300, persons in favor of Initiative 124 and those opposed to it have been
14 given an equal opportunity to share their views in an open public meeting, NOW,
15 THEREFORE,

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