

Council Bill (CB) 119542
City Council July 15, 2019
Amendment: Council Intentions
V1

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Sponsors: Council President Harrell and Councilmember Mosqueda

Background: This amendment would add two recitals to CB 119542. The first addition expresses Council's strong desire that the annual adjustments received by partner organizations be used to increase staff wages. The second addition recognizes the critical role that human services organizations fill and Council's intention to fund annual adjustments in times of both economic prosperity and economic hardship.

Notes:

Double underlines indicate new language proposed to be added.

~~Double strikethroughs~~ indicate language proposed to be removed.

Amendment

Amend Council Bill 119542 as follows:

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WHEREAS, the Human Services Department connects people with resources and solutions during times of need; and

WHEREAS, the Human Services Department contracts with more than 170 community-based partners that work together to build the infrastructure to provide services that strengthen Seattle's communities and reach the vision of a just and thriving society; and

WHEREAS, partnerships with community-based organizations allow the Human Services Department to serve thousands of vulnerable neighbors every year, including providing over 1,000,000 emergency meals, supporting over 600 family caregivers and 11,000 adults receiving long-term case management, placing 400 youth in internships and providing services to over 4,000 survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and commercial sexual exploitation in 2018; and

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WHEREAS, the cost of doing business in Seattle has continued to increase and the Seattle-

Tacoma-Bellevue Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

(issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics) increased 24.5 percent in the last ten years; and

WHEREAS, organizations in Seattle incur increased annual expenses to sustain current services,

including recruiting, training and retaining staff, rent, utilities, health care, technology,

maintenance, and transportation; and

WHEREAS, the Human Services Department has not consistently provided inflation adjustments

to ensure contracted nonprofit agencies could sustain service levels to City residents; and

WHEREAS, in the absence of an inflation adjustment, the City's partner organizations and

contracted workers have struggled to provide support for its most vulnerable residents;

WHEREAS, the City Council strongly encourages contracted partner organizations to use annual

contract adjustments to provide wage increases for employees; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the critical role of its partner organizations in the

delivery of services to the residents of Seattle and expresses its intention to fund an

annual adjustment in both periods of economic growth and in periods of economic

hardship; NOW, THEREFORE,