

Amendment 1
to
Council Bill 120121
Sponsor: Strauss

Update findings and code sections to reflect the procedural posture of the bill.

Amend the findings and Sections 1 and 5 as shown:

Section 1. The City Council finds and declares that:

E. Pursuant to the Governor's Orders, all businesses except essential businesses were forced to close or operate virtually for much of the last ~~15-18~~ months.

F. While many citizens have obtained COVID-19 vaccinations in the first two quarters of 2021, ~~the City of Seattle is still in Phase 3 of the state's Healthy Washington pandemic reopening plan and the State's reopening plan still requires, as of May 2021, limited capacity of businesses including businesses downtown such as restaurants, retail, and offices and while most COVID-19 occupancy restrictions were lifted on June 30, 2021, the rapid spread of the Delta variant of the coronavirus may require renewed occupancy limitations.~~

G. Limitations on business and economic activity over the last ~~15-18~~ months have disproportionately impacted businesses at street-level in downtown, which are acutely impacted by the lack of office workers in these neighborhoods as well as the lack of tourists and conventions. This impact has and continues to deprive these businesses of the customers previously available to support them, and this extended period of closure and significantly reduced capacity has resulted in numerous street level businesses downtown unable financially to

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continue to operate at reduced levels and with such a reduced customer base. The Downtown Seattle Association conducted a count in 2021 and found 161 vacant storefronts downtown.

Section 5. Pursuant to RCW 36.70A.390, on August 11, 2021, the Council ~~will hold~~ held a public hearing ~~within 60 days of adoption of this ordinance~~ to take public testimony and consider adopting further findings.

Effect: This amendment would modify the findings to reflect the current state of pandemic restrictions and coronavirus spread and modify a section related to the required public hearing.