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CHAIR: LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
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TRANSPORTATION  
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March 24, 2021

City of San Jose  
Rules and Open Government Committee  
200 E. Santa Clara Street  
San Jose, CA 95113

**Subject: Item G.3: Return Together**

Dear Chair Jones and Committee Members,

I would like to respectfully ask for your support for Councilmembers Peralez, Jimenez, and Cohen's memorandum to develop a "Return Together" Ordinance to ensure that hospitality workers and workers associated with the hospitality industries who were laid off due to the pandemic are called back for rehire in order of seniority.

Last year, I introduced AB 3216 - Right of Recall and Retention for Workers Impacted by COVID-19. This bill would have provided a right of recall and retention for employees who work for the hospitality industry, such as for hotels, private clubs, event centers, and airport hospitality operations. AB 3216 would have been instrumental in establishing statewide policies to protect our working families and our essential workers who were not at fault when they lost their jobs. Although the bill passed both Assembly and Senate Floors, the Governor unfortunately vetoed it. I hope San Jose can take the initiative to stand up for our most vulnerable workers.

Right of Recall for hospitality workers is not a new concept and has been implemented in multiple cities across California, including San Diego, Oakland, and San Francisco. It is time for San Jose to join other cities in protecting our essential workers and our working families. California's economy cannot recover without its workers. Without these important protections in place, we further risk the slowing of our economic recovery. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

ASH KALRA