Communication from Public

Name: Paul Gamberg
Date Submitted: 05/20/2026 10:05 AM
Council File No: 26-0588
Comments for Public Posting: In retirement, I bought a small financial intermediary route that helps small businesses in LA and Orange County. This year has seen increased financial hardships and a 30% decline in tourism and local shopping in the Santee Alley, the Pinata, and Flower and Fabric zones of the Fashion District, as well as in Historic East LA and Boyle Heights in CD14. The problems began with COVID, during which time both landlords and tenants were helped. Then came the fires and "defund" movement, as well as a huge (over $800,000,000.00 LA City Shortfall in Budget), lowered Police Academy Enrollment, and starting from Fall of '23 to Spring of '25, a large increase in commercial burglary, graffiti, and quality of life crimes disproportionately affecting downtown immigrant labor neighborhoods. This was compounded by ICE raids and unenforceable common-sense rules against the use of masks and balaclavas. High tariffs on shipping and small package imports, as well as a Mideast oil conflict, have not helped. Most of our customers and landlords have made concessions and adjustments, but as in the residential market, there are greedy and unscrupulous landlords with too much economic power that need this legislation as a counterweight. I ask for Council to fast track this proposed legislation as soon as possible,

Communication from Public

Name:	Cyndi Otteson
Date Submitted:	05/19/2026 03:45 PM
Council File No:	26-0588
Comments for Public Posting:	Good morning Councilmembers, My name is Cyndi Otteson, and I'm an Eagle Rock resident, avid small business supporter, and local shopper. I strongly support the Commercial Tenant Anti-Harassment Ordinance and stronger protections for commercial tenants in Los Angeles. Small businesses are the lifeblood of our neighborhoods, essential to the identity and stability of our neighborhoods, yet many are being pushed out through harassment, intimidation, and unfair lease practices, especially in working-class communities and communities of color. When longtime businesses disappear, we lose jobs, culture, affordability, and trusted community spaces. I urge the Council to move this ordinance forward with strong enforcement and anti-retaliation protections so small businesses can survive and thrive without fear of displacement. Thank you. -Cyndi Otteson