

January 25, 2021

NW21-003

To: Northwest Council

From: Northwest L&PA Committee

Subject: PRESUBMITTED NEW BUSINESS: Hazard Pay for Essential Workers

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## **Background**

Affected union represented grocery store employees represented by UFCW Locals 21, 367, 1439 & 81 and Teamsters Local 38.

SPEEA was supported by UFCW (United Food and Commercial Workers) & Teamsters during our strike in 2000. Currently, approximately 25,000 Puget Sound grocery store workers from 3 unions ( UFCW Locals 21, 367, 1439 & 81 Meat cutters, Teamsters local 38 Snohomish county), are working to receive a "pandemic" pay boost because of Covid 19.

### **Union Grocery Stores:**

National Chains – **Kroger (Includes QFC & Fred Meyer), Safeway (Includes Albertsons).**

Independents – **Many independent stores.**

On January 25, 2021, the Seattle City Council voted 8-0 approving legislation to reinstate hazard pay for grocery store workers.

This legislation will require employers pay those workers an extra \$4 an hour to "compensate grocery employees for the risks of working on the frontlines of a global pandemic," while also encouraging them to continue working and improving access to resources to keep them healthy.

For more information: [www.ufcw21.org](http://www.ufcw21.org)

Numerous other essential represented employees in Washington State include police, nurses and others.

## **MOTION**

*It is moved that: **The NW Council supports the UFCW Local 21 and similarly affected unions to obtain hazard pay for essential workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.***

Prior to council action (voting) to determine a legislative or public affairs position, the Northwest Council's Legislative & Public Affairs Committee shall investigate and produce both pro and con statements and a majority committee recommendation.

Passage or adoption of any legislative or public issue proposal shall be by published ballot and require: A majority vote of all Council Members present.