On March 19th the Mayor issued a “Safer at Home” emergency order temporarily closing non-essential commercial businesses in response to COVID-19 and called on residents of the City of Los Angeles to stay in their homes and limit all activity beyond what is necessary for essential tasks. While this order is necessary to protect public health it has created significant economic hardship for Angelenos.

In order to help mitigate these impacts, the Mayor implemented a temporary moratorium on evictions for non-payment of residential and commercial rents for tenants who have been impacted by the virus. In addition, he enacted a freeze on rent increases in rent stabilized units, asked the Department of Water and Power to put a halt to disconnections and late fees, and asked the Department of Transportation to relax street sweeping parking enforcement.

To further protect Angelenos who have lost their jobs and had their businesses closed, the City should call out debt collection agencies as "non-essential businesses" and impose a moratorium on debt collections for the duration of the emergency order.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Mayor be requested to amend his “Safer at Home” emergency order to specifically declare collection agencies and credit agencies as “non-essential businesses” during the emergency, and further to impose a moratorium during this time on all debt collection efforts.

PRESENTED BY: MONICA RODRIGUEZ
Councilwoman, 7th District

SECONDED BY: [Signature]

APR 7 2020