



1371 Neotomas Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
707-545-6970

Mr. Vivek Sankaran
Albertsons Companies, Inc.
250 E. Parkcenter Blvd.
Boise, ID 83706

September 4, 2020

Dear Mr. Sankaran:

The North Bay Labor Council is writing to encourage Albertsons Companies, Inc., to end its policy of placing restrictive covenants in deeds that prevent real estate buyers from using your former properties as grocery stores.

The restrictive covenants in deeds has two critical impacts we are most concerned about: the first is that it creates what are known as “food deserts”, or areas where there is little to no access for food including fruits and vegetables. In these areas the only local access to food are typically gas stations, liquor stores and corner markets that have limited options and typically no options for fresh or organic food. Food deserts most heavily impact low-income communities, communities of color and immigrant communities. Most importantly, it affects all of the Albertsons employees and their families when they vacate an area and leave no options for another grocer retailer to come in and fill the void.

The second concern is that Albertsons provides good jobs in a community, with livable wages, fair working conditions and access to benefits. Your employees are well-trained grocery store workers and managers, and are able to transition into another grocer to preserve their skillsets and experience. When Albertson’s places restrictive covenants in deeds, it means the grocer job training becomes obsolete in that community and there may no longer be options for those workers to find local employment.

These restrictions not only block access to healthy food in a neighborhood, they block access to good jobs in the community. At a time when we should all be doing our best

to create strong and good-paying jobs, eliminating Albertsons' restrictive-covenant business practice benefits everyone in the communities Albertsons' serves. We urge to reconsider placing restrictive covenants in your deeds moving forward.

We would very much appreciate a response.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack A. Buckhorn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Jack Buckhorn, Executive Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maddy Hirshfield". The signature is cursive and elegant, with the last name being the most prominent.

Maddy Hirshfield, Political Director