



**SAN
FRANCISCO
CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE**

January 12, 2016

The Honorable Mark Leno
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5100
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support SB 368; California Workplace Flexibility Act of 2016 (Berryhill)

Dear Senator Leno,

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, representing over 1,500 local businesses of all sizes, urges you to support SB 368, the California Workplace Flexibility Act of 2016 (Berryhill). This bill allows employees to request a four, 10-hour day workweek schedule without the burdensome and costly “alternative workweek schedule” system currently in place that does not serve the employee or employer.

California is one of only three states that requires employers to pay daily overtime after eight hours of work and weekly overtime after 40 hours of work. Our state’s overtime law does not permit a California employer to allow an individual worker to choose a work schedule of four 10-hour days per week without overtime being paid. As a consequence, both employers and employees lose the opportunities and benefits that an alternative, flexible work schedule can provide.

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce worked closely with Assemblymember David Chiu when he was president of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to draft his Flexible Work Schedule legislation. We also support SB 368 because it gives employers and their employees across the state flexibility in work scheduling. It will allow employees to take time they need with their families, school or other important personal matters and gives employers flexibility in scheduling without the financial burden of paying overtime. It will also lessen congestion on roads and public transportation and will reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with driving to work five days a week.

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce supports SB 368 and requests that you support it as well.

Sincerely,

Jim Lazarus
Senior Vice President of Public Policy
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce

cc: Assemblymember Phil Ting; Assemblymember David Chiu