

SF hotel dispute: Mayor "should admit his mistake and work to attract commerce:

Editor:

Much as I admire and support Mayor Newsom on many counts, his personal boycott of 14 local hotels is just plain wrong-headed and counter productive. I fail to understand how his obstinate action accomplishes anything positive. It merely inflames rhetoric and emotions while the union and employers are in the middle of active bargaining, with neither strike nor lockout conditions present. The Mayor's behavior demonstrates complicity with the union's abhorrent tactics, which include actively seeking to dissuade people from patronizing local hotels party to the bargaining process. The result: local union members working in those hotels are getting their pockets picked when wages and benefits that San Francisco employees would otherwise receive are exported to other cities, to say nothing of the revenue losses to local small businesses and the City's own coffers.

Given his bold and effective leadership in so many other areas, the Mayor's stance in this particular matter is sorely disappointing. He should admit his mistake and work to attract commerce to San Francisco, rather than attempt to drive it away!

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