When Mandates Work
Raising Labor Standards at the Local Level
Edited by Michael Reich, Ken Jacobs, and Miranda Dietz

Starting in the 1990’s, San Francisco launched a series of bold but relatively unknown public policy experiments to improve wages and benefits for thousands of local workers. Since then, scholars have documented the effects of those policies on compensation, productivity, job creation, and health coverage. Opponents predicted a range of negative impacts, but the evidence tells a decidedly different tale. This book brings together that evidence for the first time, reviews it as a whole, and considers its lessons for local, state, and federal policymakers.

“As this important work shows, a decent society requires standards of minimal decency—and they can be designed in a way that improves rather than distorts markets. Mandatory reading for anyone interested in smart mandates.”

— Robert B. Reich, Professor of Public Policy
University of California at Berkeley

This event is co-hosted by the UC Berkeley Center for Labor Research and Education (Labor Center) and the Institute for Research on Labor and Employment (IRLE).

Copies of the book will be available for purchase at the event or place your order online from UC Press (books will be available to ship on January 17).

RSVP on our Facebook event page or contact Sandy Olgeirson at 510-642-4072 or sandyo@berkeley.edu.