

RESOLUTION NO. 69

Support for the repeal of Missouri's so-called "Right-To-Work" Law

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis has a long and rich history of working with labor unions to advocate for fair wages, good benefits, workplace protections, and equal opportunities; additional, the Board of Aldermen has passed numerous resolutions in support of the right and freedom to unionize and collectively bargain for all St. Louis workers; and

WHEREAS, across the country, workers are facing a barrage of legislative attacks at the local, state, and federal level which would restrict their rights to form unions and bargain collectively, including so-called "right-to-work" legislation; and

WHEREAS, so-called "right-to-work" laws make it more difficult for workers to organize and enter into a union contract to help pay for the expenses that the union incurs while protecting the rights of all employees; and

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2017, Missouri became the 28th state to enact an anti-union, so-called "right-to-work" law; and

WHEREAS, studies reveal that deceptively titled "right-to-work" laws drive down wages for all workers, including non-union members, women, and people of color; workers living in so-called "right-to-work" states earn approximately \$1,500.00 less per year and sustain higher injury rates than workers in states without these laws; the wage disparity penalty is even worse for women and workers of color.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Alderman of the City of St. Louis:

1. Reiterates its strong support for all workers to collectively bargain for their wages, benefits, working conditions, and other rights.
2. Recognizes that workers' rights are civil rights, and is committed to work in coordination with other like-minded individuals, organizations, and groups which may be opposed to so-called "right-to-work" laws either through political, legal, or other advocacy means.
3. Advocates for the repeal of Missouri's so-called "right-to-work" law and opposes all such laws that are being considered by a local, state or federal legislature.
4. Fully supports the efforts to repeal Missouri's so-called "right-to-work" law through a statewide referendum or by any other lawful means.

Introduced this the 16th day of June, 2017, by:

The Honorable Sarah Martin, 11th Ward Alderwoman
Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President of the Board of Aldermen
Honorable Sharon Tyus, Alderwoman 1st Ward
Honorable Dionne Flowers, Alderwoman 2nd Ward
Honorable Brandon Bosley, Alderman 3rd Ward
Honorable Samuel L. Moore, Alderman 4th Ward
Honorable Tammika Hubbard, Alderwoman 5th Ward
Honorable Christine Ingrassia, Alderwoman 6th Ward
Honorable Jack Coatar, Alderman 7th Ward
Honorable Stephen Conway, Alderman 8th Ward
Honorable Dan Guenther, Alderman 9th Ward
Honorable Joseph Vollmer, Alderman 10th Ward
Honorable Sarah Wood Martin, Alderwoman 11th Ward-Sponsor
Honorable Larry Arnowitz, Alderman 12th Ward

Honorable Beth Murphy., Alderwoman 13th Ward
Honorable Carol Howard, Alderwoman 14th Ward
Honorable Megan Green, Alderwoman 15th Ward
Honorable Tom Oldenburg, Alderman 16th Ward
Honorable Joseph Roddy, Alderman 17th Ward
Honorable Terry Kennedy, Alderman 18th Ward
Honorable Marlene E. Davis, Alderwoman 19th Ward
Honorable Cara Spencer, Alderwoman 20th Ward
Honorable John Muhammad, Alderman 21st Ward
Honorable Jeffrey L. Boyd, Alderman 22nd Ward
Honorable Joe Vacarro, Alderman 23rd Ward
Honorable Scott Ogilvie, Alderman 24th Ward
Honorable Shane Cohn, Alderman 25th Ward
Honorable Frank Williamson, Alderman 26th Ward
Honorable Pam Boyd, Alderwoman 27th Ward
Honorable Vacant, Alderman 28th Ward

Adopted this 16th day of June, 2017, attested by:

Donna Evans-Booker
Assistant Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen