

Resolution Number 235
“Right to Work”

WHEREAS, many hard-working families in the United States are in a constant struggle to meet basic financial needs and goals; and

WHEREAS, America has a growing problem with income inequality, as the wealthiest one-percent thrive while millions of others are struggling, earning less and losing jobs; and

WHEREAS, a few lawmakers and out-of-state corporate special interest groups see the current economic climate as an opportunity to revive an old, outdated and dangerous ideology known as Right to Work; and

WHEREAS, these out-of-state corporate special interests are targeting Missouri to lower wages and cut benefits for middle class families so they can increase corporate profits even more; and

WHEREAS, a handful of Missouri’s elected officials have introduced Right to Work legislation in the state Capitol, with the hopes of turning Missouri into a Right to Work state; and

WHEREAS, so-called Right to Work legislation results in a race to the bottom and has been proven to be a failed idea –creating lower wages, an unskilled labor force, diminished pensions and health coverage, lost jobs, higher poverty rates and decreased spending on education; and

WHEREAS, enacting laws to lower wages and benefits for all workers in order to lure low-paying jobs to the state is not a sound economic plan for Missouri, and in particular the City of St. Louis; and

WHEREAS, the total economic loss if Missouri becomes a Right to Work state would be devastating; and

WHEREAS, government, companies, employees and labor unions should be working together to create good jobs and safe work places and the proposed Right to Work legislation does not meet that end; and

WHEREAS, unnecessary Right to Work legislation is a distraction to the real issues facing our great city and our great state;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Aldermen of the City of St. Louis that we oppose so-called “Right to Work” proposals that would harm Missouri’s families and threaten the livelihoods of working men and women throughout the City of St. Louis and the state of Missouri.

Introduced on the 28th day of February, 2014 by:

Honorable Lewis E. Reed, President of St. Louis City Board of Aldermen

Adopted this 28th day of February, 2014 as attested by:

David W. Sweeney
Clerk, Board of Aldermen

Lewis E. Reed
President, Board of Aldermen