
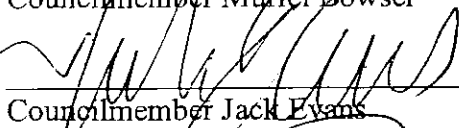
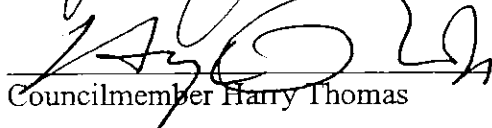



  
Councilmember Phil Mendelson


  
Councilmember Muriel Bowser

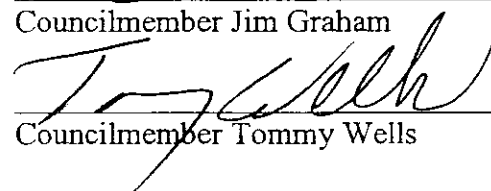
  
Councilmember Jack Evans

  
Councilmember Harry Thomas

  
Councilmember Marion Barry

  
Councilmember Kwame Brown

  
Councilmember Jim Graham

  
Councilmember Tommy Wells

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Councilmembers Phil Mendelson, Marion Barry, Muriel Bowser, Kwame Brown, Jim Graham, Harry Thomas, Jr., and Tommy Wells introduced the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_.

To declare the sense of the Council in support of the employees of Smithfield Foods.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Sense of the Council to Support of the Employees of Smithfield Foods Resolution of 2008."

Sec. The Council of the District of Columbia finds that:

(1) The District of Columbia is committed to the right of all workers to have dignity in their lives, safe and appropriate working conditions, and fair wages and compensation;

(2) Smithfield Foods is the largest pork producer and processor in the world, the fourth largest turkey processor, and the fifth largest beef processor in the United States;

(3) Smithfield Foods has created an environment of intimidation and fear for workers who desperately want a voice on the job. After numerous charges are filed from the 1997 election, an administrative law judge of the National Labor Relations Board found Smithfield liable of using illegal threats, intimidation, and violence against workers;

(4) Smithfield Foods has denied employees worker's compensation after they have been injured on the job, and has even fired injured workers;

(5) The right to form trade unions has been recognized as a Human Right under the United Nation's Universal Declaration of Human Rights, yet it has been repeatedly ignored by Smithfield Foods, as has been documented by respected watchdog organizations including Human Rights Watch;

(6) In the District, one can find Smithfield products in supermarkets, restaurants, corner stores, etc;

(7) The Council recognizes that companies who do business in the District of Columbia should respect the rights of its workers, uphold the rule of law, and be responsible corporate citizens.

Sec.3. It is the sense of the Council of the District of Columbia to support the rights of the workers at all Smithfield Food locations, and to encourage all supermarkets and vendors in the District of Columbia to refrain from stocking Smithfield meat products in their stores until such time as these critical issues are resolved.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.