

..Number

1107

..Version

SUBSTITUTE 1

..Reference

..Sponsor

MEMBER KOMES

..Title

Substitute resolution opposing 2011 Wisconsin Senate Bill 207.

..Analysis

This resolution reflects the City of Milwaukee Youth Council's opposition to Wisconsin 2011 Senate Bill 207, proposed state legislation permitting an employer to refuse to employ or to bar or terminate from employment an individual who has been convicted of a felony and who has not been pardoned for that felony.

..Body

Whereas, Wisconsin 2011 Senate Bill 207 permits an employer to refuse to employ or to bar or terminate from employment an individual who has been convicted of a felony and who has not been pardoned for that felony; and

Whereas, The proposed legislation would replace existing Fair Employment Act legislation that allows for an employer to refuse or terminate the employment of an individual who has been convicted of a felony only if the circumstance of the felony conviction is strongly related to the employment opportunity; and

Whereas, Over 62,000 Wisconsin residents have been convicted of felonies and, through passage of this legislation, would have their limited employment opportunities diminished further; and

Whereas, The proposed legislation would preclude or nullify any city or county legislation that attempts to delay the disclosure of felony convictions in order to prevent discriminatory hiring practices, including Milwaukee County's "Ban the Box" resolution to remove questions pertaining to criminal convictions from the initial job application for prospective County employees and urge all public and private employers to do the same; and

Whereas, State Senate Bill 207 will disproportionately affect Milwaukee residents, especially members of the African- and Latin-American populations; and

Whereas, State Senator Lena Taylor's request that the Committee on Labor, Public Safety and Urban Affairs hold an additional public hearing in Milwaukee has been refused; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Youth Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the Youth Council opposes Senate Bill 207.

..Requestor  
..Drafter  
LRB136875-2  
RTW  
2/7/12