



Legislation Text

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011730
SUBSTITUTE 3

ALD. RICHARDS, MURPHY, CAMERON AND SANCHEZ

Substitute resolution declaring the City's support for the creation of a "W-3: Emergency Public Service Jobs Program".

This resolution endorses the creation of a "We Want Work (W-3): Emergency Public Service Jobs Program" for all City residents - a program creating up to 500 new jobs paying no less than \$12 per hour plus benefits. It directs the Department of Administration to find sources of funding at all levels of government for implementing such a program. It further declares that money derived from property taxes will not be used for this purpose.

Whereas, In 1997, with the advent of the State of Wisconsin's "W-2" program, 31,000 Milwaukee families began the transition from Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) to what were supposed to be family-supporting jobs; and

Whereas, Families participating in the W-2 program are now beginning to reach their lifetime limit for welfare payments and will no longer be eligible for government assistance; and

Whereas, The latest University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee Employment and Training Institute survey of job openings in the Milwaukee area showed a 10-to-1 ratio between active job seekers and full-time jobs available in the central city - up from 4-to-1 in 1998; and

Whereas, It is becoming increasingly clear that the Milwaukee job market cannot and will not be able to provide even a modest standard of living for the thousands of people who will soon find themselves without any means of support; and

Whereas, Private charitable agencies like food pantries and homeless shelters are finding themselves overwhelmed with calls for assistance, a warning of the much larger poverty and want to come; and

Whereas, On October 27, 2001, more than 600, primarily central city, residents gathered at the People's Economic Summit and, among their recommendations, endorsed the creation of a "We Want Work (W-3): Emergency Public Service Jobs Program"; and

Whereas, Unemployment of all types remains a problem throughout the City of Milwaukee; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the Common Council endorses the creation of a "We Want Work (W-3): Emergency Public Service Jobs Program", the goal of which is the creation of 500 new jobs for all City residents, paying no less than \$12 per hour plus benefits; and, be it

Further Resolved, That the City directs the Department of Administration to find sources of funding, at all levels of government, for implementing such a program; and, be it

Further Resolved, That no money derived from property taxes will be used for this purpose.

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