



## Legislation Text

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030790  
SUBSTITUTE 1

ALD. PRATT and JOE DAVIS

Substitute resolution expressing support for the Initiative for a Competitive Milwaukee.

This resolution expresses the Common Council's support for the strategies and recommendations developed by the Initiative for a Competitive Milwaukee in its final report, A Call for Action: Initiative for a Competitive Milwaukee, and pledges the City's cooperation to achieve the goals set forth in this report.

Whereas, Milwaukee's inner city has an employment rate of 88% compared with 95 % for the metropolitan area, and a median annual income of \$27,000, falling well below the metropolitan area's median income of \$46,000; and

Whereas, Approximately 27% of inner city residents live in poverty compared with 11% for the metropolitan area; and

Whereas, Milwaukee's inner city has considerable strengths which the more than 5,000 businesses employing more than 120,000 people already recognize; and

Whereas, The Initiative for a Competitive Milwaukee (ICM) )is a partnership of business, government, education, labor and foundations aimed at helping to create new economic opportunities in Milwaukee's low-income inner city neighborhoods; and

Whereas, This program was developed in cooperation with the Boston-based nonprofit organization Initiative for a Competitive Inner City, which is working to revitalize inner cities across the country; and

Whereas, ICM will seek to identify and build the inner city's advantages as a business location in order to draw jobs that carry livable wages by attracting businesses and investments into the area; and

Whereas, ICM will promote business opportunities in 4 business clusters: health services, the largest inner city industry in the terms of employment; construction and development; business process services; and manufacturing; and

Whereas, ICM has developed strategies and recommendations for enhancing the economic base of the inner city contained in its final report, A call to Action: Initiative for a Competitive Milwaukee, and has taken responsibility for implementing action plans specified in said report; and

Whereas, The report defines the inner city generally as the north side between the Milwaukee River and approximately 76<sup>th</sup> Street; an area west of downtown to approximately 60<sup>th</sup> Street; and the area extending south to West Morgan Avenue between 6<sup>th</sup> Street and South 43<sup>rd</sup> Street; and

Whereas, ICM aims to:

1. Increase the competitiveness of inner city Milwaukee as a business location.
2. Strengthen the competitiveness of businesses located in the inner city and their economic linkages to the regional economy.
3. Increase jobs, income and wealth creation opportunities for residents of the inner city.

; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee, that the Common Council expresses its support for the strategies and recommendations contained in ICM's final report, A Call to Action: Initiative for a Competitive Milwaukee, and pledges the City of Milwaukee's utmost cooperation with ICM to achieve the goals set forth in this report.

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TWM/cac  
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