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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director   
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: October 20, 2023

RE: **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF DMC WORKERS AND TEAMSTERS LOCAL 283**

Council President Mary Sheffield requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF DMC WORKERS AND TEAMSTERS LOCAL 283.**

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

**BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT MARY SHEFFIELD**

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF DMC WORKERS AND TEAMSTERS LOCAL 283**

- WHEREAS,** At Detroit Medical Center (DMC), lab assistants and customer service representatives represented by Teamsters Local 283 have been operating under an expired collective bargaining agreement since December 31, 2022 after negotiations failed to produce a new contract; and
- WHEREAS,** Employees are demanding a modest increase in wages to compensate for increased inflation and cost of living as well as an increase in health benefits; and
- WHEREAS,** Teamsters Local 283 has stated that DMC has only offered a miniscule increase in wages and refuses to bargain on employee health care; and
- WHEREAS,** As contract negotiations have continued to devolve, Teamsters Local 283 filed unfair labor practice charges against DMC with the National Labor Relations Board, alleging that DMC has failed to provide requested information, denied the union access to areas of the facility to meet with union members, and engaged in bad faith/surface bargaining; and
- WHEREAS,** The lab assistants and customer service representatives say that their departments are understaffed and they are overworked. Additionally, they feel disrespected and unappreciated after they continued to provide essential medical services during the COVID-19 pandemic, which was one of the deadliest pandemics in recorded history; and
- WHEREAS,** DMC representatives have been publicly dismissive of the union’s demands and the unfair labor practice charges; and
- WHEREAS,** Members of Teamsters Local 283 have already voted to approve a strike if negotiations do not produce an agreement in the near future; and
- WHEREAS,** The Detroit City Council supports working people across every sector of our economy and recognizes that working people deserve respect, adequate workplace protections, and the right to a living wage; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED,** That the Detroit City Council supports and stands in solidarity with DMC lab assistants, customer service workers, and Teamsters Local 283 as they continue to negotiate for a collective bargaining agreement that results in improved compensation and working conditions for its members; **NOW BE IT FINALLY**
- RESOLVED,** That the Detroit City Clerk’s Office provide a copy of this resolution to Teamsters Local 283 and the Detroit Medical Center.