

## **RESOLUTION BY DETROIT CITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT BRENDA JONES**

### **RESOLUTION URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE STATE OF MICHIGAN TO PASS LEGISLATION RAISING ESSENTIAL WORKERS WAGES BY \$10 AND SUPPORT FOR PROVIDING OTHER ASSISTANCE TO ESSENTIAL WORKERS**

**WHEREAS**, The first case of COVID-19 was diagnosed in Wuhan, China late December 2019. Since then, it has spread internationally, causing a global pandemic. As of April 7, 2020, cases in the U.S has climbed to 388,012 with 12,370 deaths. Michigan is one of the hardest hit states with 17,221 cases, 727 deaths, and the number of new cases is rising daily; and

**WHEREAS**, It is the City of Detroit's duty to continue to provide and manage essential societal functions during the pandemic. Unfortunately, the activities required to maintain those functions means that truck drivers, childcare aides, public safety, healthcare, grocery/convenience store, delivery, and public transit workers are on the frontlines, being stewards of their community's needs, and risking exposure to the virus; and

**WHEREAS**, It has become evident that this pandemic has not only caused a health care crisis, but also an economic one. Many essential workers providing invaluable health services, food, and delivery of essential goods are not afforded vital amenities necessary to alleviate health-related and economic concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, Consequently, it is the government's responsibility to provide incentives and recompense to dedicated workers, who may lack the resources to stay at home and/or are critical to our very existence. These essential workers need relief now, most specifically minimum wage workers; and

**WHEREAS**, The Detroit City Council supports any legislation from the federal government and/or state of Michigan that aids and compensates these essential workers' efforts during this difficult and uncertain time. **NOW THEREFORE BE IT;**

**RESOLVED**, The Detroit City Council declares it support for raising wages for all essential workers by \$10, extension of paid sick and vacation time, bonus pay, health care coverage and assistance with child care services during long work hours for their service and **BE IT FURTHER;**

**RESOLVED**, The Detroit City Council strongly urges that there be legislation enacted to permanently enact wage increases and employment benefits such as paid sick and vacation time, bonus pay and health care coverage to acknowledge, support and compensate the sacrifice and value of our nation's essential workers and **BE IT FURTHER;**

**RESOLVED**, The City Clerk is directed to send copies of this resolution to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, Michigan State Legislature, and the Federal Government.