

Offered by Council President Feeney and Councillors Consalvo, Murphy, Yoon, Arroyo,  
Turner and LaMattina



## CITY OF BOSTON

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IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND SEVEN

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### A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING WORKERS' RIGHTS

- WHEREAS:** Boston is home to close to seventy Boston-based unions with over thirty-five thousand (35,000) members living in Boston; and
- WHEREAS:** Boston is rich in labor history as the home of the eight hour day and the first workers compensation laws; and
- WHEREAS:** Smithfield Packing Company in Tar Heel, North Carolina continues to violate U.S. labor law by physically assaulting and intimidating workers, illegally arresting workers, threatening workers with arrest by federal immigration authorities, and unlawfully firing workers; and
- WHEREAS:** Boston has a long history of advancing the civil rights movement and working to end abuse and discrimination of working men and women across the country; and
- WHEREAS:** Boston recognizes that companies that do business in Boston should respect the rights of its workers, uphold the rule of law, and be responsible corporate citizens; and
- WHEREAS:** When the rights of some workers are denied, the rights of all workers are endangered. THEREFORE BE IT
- RESOLVED:** That the City of Boston review its purchasing of any products from the Smithfield Packing Company in Tar Heel, North Carolina (Smithfield USDA number-18079 and, for bacon, 79-c) and suspend these purchases until the company ends all form of abuse, intimidation and violence against its workers and provides workers a safe place to work with dignity, respect and the protection of a union contract. AND BE IT FURTHER
- RESOLVED:** That the City of Boston does also encourage supermarkets within the city to consider suspending their purchase of any Smithfield products until such time as these critical issues are resolved.

Filed in the City Council: August 1, 2007