



Legislation Text

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INTRODUCTORY*

CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL R
(Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Clarke and Middleton

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning
Retention of Baltimore Convention Center Food Services Workers

FOR the purpose of calling on the Baltimore Convention Center to ensure that the change in food service contractors does not result in the loss of jobs for current Convention Center food services workers and strongly endorsing the transition proposal offered by the Convention Center food service employees to the incoming food services contractor.

Recitals

WHEREAS, The Baltimore Convention Center is a City-owned facility; and

WHEREAS, Outside contractors have always been used by the City to provide food services at the Convention Center; and

WHEREAS, The current employees providing food services to Convention Center visitors are experienced in their positions and specially trained through the Baltimore Ambassador program to provide services to visitors to Baltimore at the Convention Center in a way that casts the City in the best possible light; and

WHEREAS, Food services work at the Convention Center provides much needed full time jobs to many, and a majority of these jobs are filled by hardworking City residents; and

WHEREAS, On December 21st of this year the current food services contractor, ARAMARK, will be replaced by a new food services contractor, Centerplate; and,

WHEREAS, In the past whenever a new contractor has begun providing food services for the Convention Center, existing employees have been assured that they would retain their jobs; and,

WHEREAS, The food services workers at the Convention Center have approached both the Center and Centerplate to seek assurances that they will retain their existing jobs despite the change in contractors, as has been done in the past; and,

WHEREAS, The food services workers have offered to undergo a 90-day trial period with Centerplate, at the end of which employees could only be terminated for just cause, to prove to the new contractor that they are the people best suited for the jobs at the Convention Center; but despite these efforts to enter into a dialogue with Centerplate and the Convention Center, these workers have not been reassured that their positions will be maintained by the new food services contractor.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the City Council calls on the Baltimore Convention Center to ensure that the change in food service contractors does not result in the loss of jobs for any current Convention Center food services workers, and that the Council strongly endorses the transition proposal offered by the Convention Center food service employees to Centerplate.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Executive Director of the Baltimore Convention Center, the President and CEO of Centerplate, the President of UNITE HERE! Local 7, the President and CEO of Visit Baltimore, the Mayor, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

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