City of Baltimore

City Council
City Hall, Room 408
100 North Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Legislation Text

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INTRODUCTORY*

CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL   R
(Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Clarke and Curran

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning
Hyatt Regency Baltimore Labor Peace Agreement

FOR the purpose of calling upon the Hyatt Regency Baltimore to abide by the terms of its agreements with the City, including the direct hiring and employment of all employees, and for the City of Baltimore to encourage the Hyatt Regency Baltimore to enter into a Labor Peace Agreement which protects the City against lost revenues due to boycotts and other labor disputes, and for the City to furthermore decline to enter into, or amend, any agreements with the Hyatt Regency Baltimore until the City is protected against losses by the operator's signed participation in a Labor Peace Agreement.

Recitals

WHEREAS, the City of Baltimore has a direct proprietary interest in the Hyatt Regency Baltimore at 300 Light Street overlooking the Inner Harbor.

WHEREAS, this hotel is built on prime City land and has benefitted from a $20 million federal UDAG grant which City government, the business community, and the Metropolitan Baltimore AFL-CIO helped to secure in the late 1970's.

WHEREAS, the City supported the development of this premiere hotel and of the Inner Harbor itself to provide alternative tourism and hospitality careers for City residents suffering the loss of Baltimore's traditional manufacturing employment opportunities.

WHEREAS, for this reason, the City's hotel management agreement with the Hyatt Regency Baltimore requires the Hyatt Hotels Corporation to serve as the direct employer of all hotel personnel and prohibits any personnel subleases or concession agreements.

WHEREAS, although Hyatt is prohibited from changing the terms of this management agreement with Baltimore City, Hyatt has long been in violation by contracting with a third-party subcontractor to hire and supervise a

majority of housekeeping employees, a core personnel component of hotel operations.

   WHEREAS, other Hyatt locations across the nation are currently subject to boycotts due in part to Hyatt's widespread personnel subcontracting and the resulting lack of direct employment opportunities.

   WHEREAS, such boycotts are endorsed by over 5,000 individuals and groups nationally, and are in the City's proprietary and civic interests to avoid in Baltimore.

   WHEREAS, the Hyatt Regency Baltimore has recently settled a National Labor Relations Board complaint here in Baltimore involving the discharge and disciplining of union supporters, a settlement resulting in the award of back pay to two fired employees and the removal of disciplines imposed upon other union supporters in Hyatt employ.

   WHEREAS, the City of Baltimore has wisely set the precedent of enacting a Labor Peace Ordinance which protects its proprietary interests from labor disputes at the City-owned Hilton Baltimore Hotel at 401 West Pratt Street.

   NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, that the City Council calls upon the Hyatt to abide by the terms of its agreements with the City, including the direct hire of all employees, and to enter into a Labor Peace Agreement which protects the City against lost revenues due to potential boycotts and labor disputes.

   AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council calls upon the City of Baltimore to decline to enter into, or amend, agreements with the Hyatt Regency Baltimore until this hotel enters into a Labor Peace Agreement which protects the City against the revenue losses and disruption of labor discord.

   AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Hyatt Regency Baltimore, the Labor Commissioner, the Mayor, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

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