



City of Pittsburgh

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Text File

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WHEREAS, the people of Pittsburgh have a shared history of pride and resilience, and today we are rebuilding our neighborhoods, educating our children, and together making our City one of the most admired in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center is now the region's largest employer and health care system--and recipient of charitable tax exemptions supported by us, the taxpayers--and, as such, has a responsibility to live up to our community's shared values; and

WHEREAS, instead of living up to these values, UPMC has intimidated workers, abandoned patients, and taken legal action against its host, the City of Pittsburgh, acting more like a bully than a charity; and

WHEREAS, UPMC has faced allegations of unlawfully intimidating, harassing, and even firing workers who want to join together into a union to make improvements at the workplace and in their communities; and

WHEREAS, UPMC has disrupted the continuity of patient care by shutting out Community Blue subscribers from its network, even if they would pay cash for services; and

WHEREAS, with a Pittsburgh tradition of standing up to bullies, the workers of UPMC are courageously standing up to the health care giant not just for themselves or their own families, but for all of us who work for a wage or salary in our society; and

WHEREAS, on September 7, 2013, UPMC workers will lead a rally and march to UPMC to demand that the institution stop firing and harassing workers organizing to build Pittsburgh's middle class and threatening to cut off access to patients who have the "wrong" insurance; and

WHEREAS, just as we today celebrate the struggles of Pittsburgh's past and honor the sacrifices that generations of workers made in order to improve their lives and craft the strong foundation on which our City stands, future generations of workers will look back with pride and gratitude on today's efforts to rebuild our middle class.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby congratulate the workers who are striving to transform UPMC, an institution with immense wealth and great influence, to one that is accountable to the needs of our broader community, inspiring our whole City through their conviction and resolve.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare its support for the September 7, 2013 **UPMC: Stop Bullying Pittsburgh** march and rally.