



City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Text File

Introduced: 10/8/2013

Bill No: 2013-1937, **Version:** 1

Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, our City's largest employer, dominant health care provider, and greatest recipient of taxpayer-supported charitable tax exemptions, has a responsibility to carry out its core mission; and

WHEREAS, a critical component of that mission is to work with its employees and City residents to create family-sustaining, living wage jobs; and

WHEREAS, respect for our country's laws and to our community's ethical standards is a reasonable expectation of a highly-subsidized charitable institution; and

WHEREAS, a charitable healthcare institution should devote its resources to providing care, not allocating millions of scarce healthcare dollars and precious staff time to interfering with workers' rights to choose whether to form a union; and

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2013, Region 6 of the National Labor Relations Board issued a second historic complaint against UPMC, alleging that UPMC engaged in at least 47 separate instances of intimidation, harassment, discrimination, surveillance, and illegal firing of workers, in violation of federal law; and

WHEREAS, the serious charges include UPMC threatening to arrest workers for talking about the union in the cafeteria and retaliating against workers who brought their testimony to the National Labor Relations Board, the federal agency charged with protecting workers' rights; and

WHEREAS, the complaint names 34 UPMC managers and supervisors, as having been involved in these alleged violations; and

WHEREAS, these new allegations come shortly after UPMC entered into a settlement of an earlier NLRB complaint alleging 80 labor law violations and raise grave concerns about UPMC's commitment to stopping the harassing, intimidating, and discriminating against workers looking to raise themselves out of poverty.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh supports the UPMC workers for their brave and principled stand on behalf of all working people in Pittsburgh. Their fight for fair treatment from UPMC is vital to making sure everyone in our community realizes the prosperity and success of our economy;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh stands with UPMC workers and Region 6 of the National Labor Relations Board in calling for the end of UPMC's aggressive anti-worker campaign, the immediate reinstatement and backpay for the fired UPMC workers, the posting of notices of workers' rights throughout UPMC facilities, and for managers to read notices of their rights to UPMC

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employees;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh will work with UPMC employees, labor and faith leaders, and all concerned members of our City to secure a real commitment from UPMC to stop violating workers' rights and instead join with them to share the prosperity of the institution that they-and we-have built.