

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, KENZIE BOK, LIZ
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CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION URGING MASS GENERAL BRIGHAM TO DEMONSTRATE A COMMITMENT TO LABOR HARMONY FOR A FAIR NLRB ELECTION PROCESS

WHEREAS, Interns, residents, and fellow physicians employed by Mass General Brigham (MGB) have majority support of their unit to unionize with the Committee of Interns and Residents/SEIU; *and*

WHEREAS, Interns, residents, and fellows are organizing because they are keenly aware of the gaps in care and the root causes of the issues their patients face, yet currently have no say in their working conditions; *and*

WHEREAS, Interns, residents, and fellows regularly work eighty or more hours per week and are only guaranteed one day off in seven; *and*

WHEREAS, These “housestaff” are organizing for safe and healthy working and learning conditions, including universal coverage of necessary workplace equipment (e.g. surgical loupes, lead for radiation protection), improved conditions in the physical workplace environment, necessary protection for personal health needs and adequate support for educational career development; *and*

WHEREAS, Housestaff are also fighting for improved compensation commensurate with the local cost of living, improved health insurance coverage, and access to services that promote housestaff well-being; *and*

WHEREAS, Training programs should never be an opportunity to exploit workers, so a union can help secure residency and fellowship programs that allow participants to focus on becoming the best physicians they can be for the community without worrying about affording basic needs such as rent; *and*

WHEREAS, Housestaff deserve to be in environments where they can implement the best practices for patients because they have the time and tools to do so, and a union can help secure a better healthcare system where everyone has what they need to make our hospitals run better; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

RESOLVED: The Boston City Council goes on record in solidarity with the MGB housestaff and urges MGB, in a spirit of labor harmony, to enable a fair, transparent NLRB election process for interns, residents, and fellow physicians.

Filed on: April 24, 2023