



**OFFERED BY COUNCILORS ED FLYNN, ARROYO, BREADON,
COLETTA, FERNANDES ANDERSON, FLAHERTY, LARA,
LOUIJEUNE, MEJIA, MURPHY AND WORRELL**

**CITY OF BOSTON
IN CITY COUNCIL**

**RESOLUTION HONORING THE HEALTH CARE & HOME CARE
WORKER MEMBERS OF 1199SEIU AND ON THE
FUTURE OF CARE IN BOSTON**

- WHEREAS:** Boston's healthcare industry has a proud worldwide reputation for quality health care and cutting-edge research which we seek to preserve and advance; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Healthcare and home care workers continue to work together to deliver critical and indispensable care, even as the COVID-19 pandemic has exposed systemic inadequacies and inequities that have been ignored for far too long; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Boston health systems are the largest employer in the city, with one out of every five jobs existing in a care setting, and, as such, the healthcare and home care industry plays a major role in determining economic standards for the people of Boston; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Caregivers truly are the heart of Boston, day after day putting their all in to caring for the sick, people with disabilities, elders, and our most vulnerable residents, and yet many do not make a living wage, have little access to training and educational advancement, have no job security, cannot retire with dignity, and are unable to afford childcare; *and*
- WHEREAS:** Boston faces a growing care worker shortage, with thousands of vacancies across the healthcare and home care delivery systems, forcing incumbent workers to consistently work short-staffed; *and*
- WHEREAS:** This is an important moment to re-imagine the future of care in the City of Boston, and that starts with caregivers leading the conversation on policy reforms, investment in workforce development, removing barriers to unionization, and winning contracts that improve working conditions and protect quality care; *and*
- WHEREAS:** 1199ers provide care as nurses, certified nursing assistants, and direct care workers as a part of care teams to provide high quality care across the City of Boston's many hospitals, community health centers, nursing homes, and other healthcare facilities; *and*
- WHEREAS:** The thousands of 1199SEIU members have shown what the future of care could look like when all caregivers are respected, protected, paid, and unionized; *and*
- WHEREAS:** To promote the recruitment and retention of a sufficient number of frontline healthcare and home care workers, we must better support these caregivers with more pay, better benefits, career ladder opportunities, and higher job standards.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Boston City Council hereby honors 1199SEIU nurses, frontline healthcare workers, and home care workers, and pledges support in shaping a future of care that invests in caregivers, centers equity, and is accessible to all;

AND IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Boston City Council calls on the City's healthcare and home care employers to embark on a process of working collaboratively with caregivers collectively to strengthen the future of care.

Filed on: May 10, 2023