

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS KENZIE BOK, BREADON, LOUIJEUNE, ARROYO, BAKER, COLETTA, FERNANDES ANDERSON, FLAHERTY, MEJIA AND FLYNN



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE BOSTON UNIVERSITY GRADUATE WORKERS UNION

WHEREAS, As of October 11th, 2022, a growing majority of graduate workers at Boston University have signed union authorization cards indicating their intention to join SEIU Local 509; *and*

WHEREAS, Graduate workers at Boston University do work that is essential to the University's success; *and*

WHEREAS, Graduate workers at Boston University research, teach, grade, serve on committees, supervise student housing, and perform other key functions in every department across the University; *and*

WHEREAS, Current graduate worker wages are insufficient to meet the cost of living and their healthcare benefits are inadequate in certain regards; *and*

WHEREAS, Many graduate workers are overworked while also facing housing and food insecurity, and international student workers are often especially vulnerable to risks of exploitation; *and*

WHEREAS, The growing tide of unionization among graduate student workers reflects an important pushback against the tide of casualization of the American workforce in general and the academic workforce in particular, where the path from unprotected graduate student worker to unprotected adjunct instructor is now all too common, even as tuitions increase nationwide; *and*

WHEREAS, Many universities including New York University, Brown University, and Georgetown University have voluntarily recognized graduate worker unions, and through partnership between union workers and institutional leadership, the work environment and quality of life of graduate workers has improved; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED: That the Boston City Council supports the Boston University Graduate Workers Union and calls upon Boston University to voluntarily recognize their unit.

Filed on: October 12, 2022