

Offered by Councilors Ruthzee Louijeune and Ed Flynn, Worrell, Baker, Bok, Breadon, Coletta, Fernandes Anderson, Flaherty, Lara, Mejia, Murphy and Arroyo



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF 32BJ SEIU'S SECURITY OFFICER CAMPAIGN

WHEREAS: Security officers are among the essential workers who kept our City running during one of the greatest crises we have ever faced—the COVID-19 pandemic; and,

WHEREAS: While many people were able to work from home during the pandemic, security officers were at their posts, risking their own health to ensure the highest degree of safety in buildings;

WHEREAS: These security officers protect hundreds of thousands of employees, tens of thousands of students, and millions of square feet of highly valuable commercial real estate—in a highly resilient market that has the nation's highest leasing sales volume, a thriving and rapidly expanding life sciences sector, and millions of square feet of new office and laboratory space being built in almost every neighborhood of Boston; and,

WHEREAS: 3,000 Boston-area security officers are currently in contract negotiations and hope to achieve fair and reasonable goals of higher wages, affordable healthcare, retirement benefits, and better working conditions; and,

WHEREAS: Essential workers and their unions have played an important role in supporting communities and local economies through very tough economic conditions, and a pandemic that has disproportionately impacted—as the majority of security officers are—people of color and immigrants who call Boston home; and,

WHEREAS: Boston is already one of the most expensive housing markets in the country, with housing and basic necessities becoming even more unaffordable as working people struggle to keep up with a cost of living that is rising at historic levels; and,

WHEREAS: These negotiations provide an important opportunity to recognize and reward the commitment of the essential security officers who personally sacrificed to keep Boston strong during the pandemic; and.

WHEREAS: The contract for 32BJ security officers will expire at midnight, July 31st, 2022.
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That Boston City Council stands in solidarity with security officers; that the City Council calls upon property owners and security clients in the City of Boston to support the security officers guarding their buildings, and calls for them to publicly urge the security contractors they hire to bargain fairly and in good faith with the security officers.