

Resolution No. _____

Resolution Recognizing and Supporting the Vital Role of the University of Iowa's Labor Center.

Whereas, the University of Iowa, one of the nation's premier public universities with over 30,000 students, is located primarily in Iowa City; and

Whereas, the University and Iowa City share many overlapping interests and concerns, and hence thrive when they share information, expertise, and services that strengthen both the campus and the community; and

Whereas, the City Council recognizes the financial pressures the University has been facing, the difficult choices leaders of the University must make, and the importance of not undermining our close and valued relationship; and

Whereas, the City Council has a responsibility to inform University leaders about any adverse effects we believe its actions might have on Iowa City's residents; and

Whereas, the University of Iowa's Labor Center has, since 1961, been a trusted source of research and education on labor-related topics such as: workplace health and safety, wage payment rights, family and medical leave protections, confronting discrimination and harassment on the job, compensation for injured workers, and leadership skills; and

Whereas, these research and education efforts have promoted human dignity, equity, and high-quality jobs, and have, therefore, helped to improve the lives of workers and their families in Iowa City and throughout the state; and

Whereas, the Labor Center has also served as an important bridge connecting Iowa City residents and the campus, bringing together students, faculty, and national leaders with local workers and community organizations to analyze contemporary problems and develop innovative solutions; and

Whereas, the Iowa City Human Rights Commission formally recognized the Labor Center as recipient of the 2018 Bill Reagan Human Rights Award for the Center's outstanding contributions to human rights by an organization; and

Whereas, hundreds of Iowa City-area residents have joined nearly 10,000 people across the state in signing petitions, providing public testimony, attended rallies, and speaking out to University leaders to emphasize the vital role the Labor Center plays in improving the lives of workers and students and to call on the administration to recommit funding to this institution; and

Whereas, we believe that closing the Labor Center would harm people in Iowa City who depend on it as a source of vital information at a time when labor and employment laws are undergoing dramatic changes, when workers in Iowa City and the state are experiencing workplace abuses such as wage theft, racial and national origin discrimination, and sexual harassment

Now Therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Iowa City, in the State of Iowa.

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The Iowa City Council urges the University of Iowa not to close the Labor Center and instead to allocate sufficient funds to preserve this resource for generations of workers and students to come.

Passed and approved this _____ day of _____, 2019.

Mayor

Approved by

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

City Attorney's Office

It was moved by _____ and seconded by _____ the Resolution be adopted, and upon roll call there were:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

_____ Cole
_____ Mims
_____ Salih
_____ Taylor
_____ Teague
_____ Thomas
_____ Throgmorton