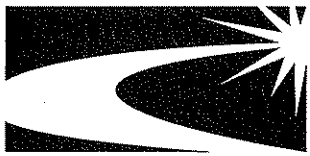


32BJ



SEIU

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INTERNATIONAL UNION
CTW, CLC

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14 July 2010

New York City Council
250 Broadway
New York, NY 10007

Dear Councilmember

I am writing today in support of Intro 251, the Fair Wages for New Yorkers Act. SEIU 32BJ strongly believes that government should never be in the business of subsidizing poverty level jobs. That is why we are supporting The Fair Wages for New Yorkers Act and also why we continue to support the Good Jobs Bill (Intro 18). Together these bills will ensure that all classes of workers at city-subsidized development projects make a good wage and receive benefits.

Every year New York City spends billions of dollars in the name of economic development and job creation with little regard for the quality of the jobs created. The Fair Wages for New Yorkers Act and the Good Jobs Bill empower the city to direct its resources towards responsible employers, fundamentally redefining the City's approach to economic development.

So often at the forefront of innovation, New York now finds itself lagging behind a number of U.S. cities and counties that have tied wage standards to the receipt of public incentives. Cities from Pittsburgh to Los Angeles are realizing the benefits of economic development that works from the ground up by guaranteeing good wages. New York should do the same.

Both the Good Jobs Bill and the Fair Wages for New Yorkers Act have strong support in the New York City Council. On behalf of the 70,000 SEIU 32BJ members living in New York we would like to thank the City Council for its leadership on this important issue and urge Councilmembers to work towards a swift passage for both pieces of legislation.

Sincerely,

Hector Figueroa
Secretary-Treasurer