

Living Wages YES! Resolution

WHEREAS the Bush Administration, the Pawlenty Administration, and corporate interests in Minnesota and throughout the country continue to advance policies which increase the income gap between rich and poor; and

WHEREAS we in the City of Minneapolis have a proud history of advancing progressive policies that support poor and working people, strengthening communities, and raising living standards, and

WHEREAS the City of Minneapolis uses the tax dollars of its citizens to pay private companies for services and to give subsidies for economic development; and

WHEREAS many companies who currently do business with the City are not required to pay a living wage; and

WHEREAS a coalition of community, faith, and labor groups have begun a campaign to significantly strengthen the living wage provisions in Minneapolis through a strong, enforceable ordinance; and

WHEREAS a broad-based grassroots campaign for living wage jobs in 2005 will energize and activate our urban progressive base and strengthen 2006 campaigns in support of DFL candidates running for statewide office; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Minneapolis DFL endorse the Living Wages YES! Campaign to:

- Require that businesses who are awarded contracts or subsidies by the City of Minneapolis be required to pay a Living Wage,
- Define a Living Wage as 130% of the Federal Poverty limit for a family of four, which is the level that a family would be eligible for food stamps,
- Make sure our tax dollars are not subsidizing poverty-level jobs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Minneapolis DFL encourages all DFL elected officials in the City of Minneapolis to support a strong, enforceable ordinance to promote living wages.