

RESOLUTION NO. 56-2021 (CRR)

By Council Member Russell

A Resolution in support of the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act, which provides a generational opportunity for the labor movement and serves as the cornerstone of the Workers First Agenda; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, inequality has skyrocketed due to the failure of policymakers to pass pro-worker labor laws and properly administer the National Labor Relations Act of 1935, which failure has made it more difficult for workers to form unions;

WHEREAS, the PRO Act is the most significant worker empowerment legislation since the Great Depression, as it stands to give workers a free and fair choice on whether to form a union, ensures workers can reach a first contract quickly after a union is recognized, ends employers' practice of punishing striking workers by hiring permanent replacements, and holds corporations accountable, with real penalties, for illegally retaliating against workers who organize; and

WHEREAS, the PRO Act will help make America's economy work for working people, and help raise stagnant wages that have increased only 9% from 1973 to 2013, while productivity has increased 74% over that same time period; and

WHEREAS, wage stagnation and runaway inequality of political, social, and economic power have undermined the public's faith in our democracy; and

WHEREAS, through the expansion of collective bargaining under the PRO Act, there will be increases in pay and protections for women, people of color, immigrants, and the LGBTQ community in areas where our non-discrimination laws are still falling short; and

WHEREAS, America must build back better with unions by making the PRO Act the law of the land, increasing worker power and rebuilding our economy fairly for all of us.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. The City of Cleveland Heights hereby expresses its approval and support for the PRO Act. The PRO Act stands to greatly increase economic opportunity in America and empower workers through the promotion and expansion of collective bargaining.

SECTION 2. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 3. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to express support and approval of the PRO Act at the earliest time possible. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take

effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.

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JASON S. STEIN  
President of the Council

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AMY HIMMELEIN  
Clerk of Council

PASSED: May 3, 2021

