

Offered by City Councilor Lydia Edwards



CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDER FOR A HEARING REGARDING STUDENT WORKERS AND LABOR PRACTICES IN BOSTON'S INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

WHEREAS: Student workers at Boston University, Boston College, Northeastern, Harvard and other institutions have organized to advance their labor rights by forming a union and entering into collective bargaining with their institutional employers; and

WHEREAS: The Boston City Council voted on April 24, 2019 to support efforts by the BCGEU-UAW to negotiate in good faith with Boston College and exercise free speech rights without reprisal; and

WHEREAS: Student workers perform critical functions in teaching, research and other areas, generating economic value for the institutions at which they are employed; and

WHEREAS: Failure to acknowledge the labor of student workers has consequences for job quality, compensation and the rights of women and pregnant workers; and

WHEREAS: There is precedent for organized student labor in Boston and Greater Boston, as graduate student workers at institutions such as UMass Boston and Tufts have formed unions; and

WHEREAS: Partnership from educational institutions is critical in advancing economic opportunity, housing stability and social equity for Bostonians; *THEREFORE*

BE IT ORDERED,

That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to discuss student workers at higher educational institutions in the City of Boston, and that the local affiliates of the United Auto Workers and representatives of Boston College, Boston University, Harvard University, Northeastern University, and other interested parties be invited to testify.

Filed in City Council: May 1, 2019