



Memorializing Resolution of the City Council - #0002-2024

Sponsored by: **LaShay D. Harris** Council Vice President, South District Representative

Cosponsored by: **Willie J Lightfoot, Sr.**, Councilmember At-Large

To The Honorable
Rochester City Council
30 Church Street
Rochester, New York 14614

RE: Memorializing the Governor & New York State Legislature to Enact the State Working Families Tax Credit

Honorable Council Members:

We ask you to join us by signing your name on this Memorializing Resolution to support enacting the Working Families Tax Credit (as shared in the December 2023 Children's Agenda Report) and, in doing so, to collectively **State and Resolve:**

WHEREAS, We, the undersigned members of Rochester City Council, recommend public policies and smart use of public funds so children and families can thrive; and

WHEREAS, enacting the Working Families Tax Credit will strengthen the impact of existing tax credits and ensure wages stay with working families; and

WHEREAS, the Working Families Tax Credit is structured to have greater poverty-reduction impact than existing credits, adopting characteristics of the temporary pandemic expansion of the Federal Child Tax Credit in 2021, an expansion that contributed to reducing child poverty nationally by 46% to a record low of 5.2%; and

WHEREAS, eligible families with children would receive a Working Families Tax Credit equal to or greater than the current Earned Income Tax Credit plus the Empire State Child Credit for all children in the household including young children under age four, who are presently excluded from the Empire State Child Credit; and

WHEREAS, since the Federal Child Tax Credit expansion ended in 2022, 3.7 million children around the nation have been plunged back into poverty; and

WHEREAS, the Working Families Tax Credit will allow families with the lowest incomes to receive the highest credit amount by eliminating the phase-ins currently in place for both credits; and

WHEREAS, the Working Families Tax Credit will be available to immigrant tax-filers with Individual Tax Identification Numbers in the same manner as filers with Social Security Numbers; and

RE: Memorializing the Governor & New York State Legislature to Enact the State Working Families Tax Credit

WHEREAS, the Working Families Tax Credit will be paid out in four increments throughout the year.

Now, Therefore, be it RESOLVED, We, the undersigned Members of Rochester City Council support enacting the state Working Families Tax Credit, as recommended by the Children's Agenda, to help lift people – and particularly children – out of poverty; and we shall forward copies of this resolution to the Governor and Members of the State Senate and Assembly.

Sincerely,



LaShay D. Harris, Vice President
South District



Willie J. Lightfoot, Sr., Councilmember
At-Large

xc Children's Agenda

attachment

RE: Memorializing the Governor & New York State Legislature to Enact the State Working Families Tax Credit

The following Councilmembers join their colleague in support of Memorializing Resolution 0002-24:



Miguel A. Meléndez, President
At-Large Representative



Mitch Gruber, Councilmember
At-Large Representative



Mary Lupien, Councilmember
East District Representative



Stanley Martin, Councilmember
At-Large Representative



Bridget Monroe, Councilmember
Northwest District Representative



Michael Patterson, Councilmember
Northeast District



Kim Smith, Councilmember
At-Large Representative