

# **RESOLUTION**

**15 – R – \_\_\_\_\_**

## **SUPPORTING LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPOWERMENT AND REFORM**

**WHEREAS** Illinois state law creates a "one size fits all" approach to collective bargaining for local units of governments. This approach creates added costs which are ultimately passed on to taxpayers; and

**WHEREAS** local officials should determine what is a subject of bargaining—not the State; and

**WHEREAS** local control of bargaining would allow local governments to determine if certain topics should be excluded from collective bargaining, including contracting, wages, provisions of health insurance, use of employee time, required levels of staffing, procedures and criteria for personnel evaluations; and

**WHEREAS** state law sets thresholds for workers on state and local construction projects increasing costs significantly; and

**WHEREAS** state law has increased utilization of Project Labor Agreements for construction projects; and

**WHEREAS** repealing the Illinois Prevailing Wage Law and the requirements for Project Labor Agreements would allow local governments more control over construction and project costs; and

**WHEREAS** more than 280 unfunded mandates have been imposed in recent years on communities across Illinois costing those communities billions; and

**WHEREAS** rolling back mandates will create more flexibility in local government budgets; and

**WHEREAS** Workers' Compensation costs in Illinois are the seventh highest in the nation—more than double the costs in Indiana; and

**WHEREAS** updating how injuries are apportioned to ensure employers pay for injuries that occur on the job, a clarification regarding the definition of "traveling employees" to ensure a reasonable standard that excludes risks that would impact the general public, and implementation of American Medical Association guidelines when determining impairment would result in major cost savings for local governments; and

**WHEREAS** our community should be allowed to decide whether or not employees should be forced to join a union or pay dues as a condition of employment; and

**WHEREAS** local empowerment zones will help attract jobs and make our community more attractive for businesses; and

**WHEREAS** local governments face unfunded liabilities that threaten core services and functions of government; and State action on pension reform for future work should provide local governments the ability to address pension reform for future work as well;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the **City of Charleston** endorses major reforms in state government that will encourage local control, reduce costs on local governments, and increase competitiveness in our community.

**INTRODUCED** to Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2015.

**PASSED** by Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2015.

**APPROVED** by the Mayor this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2015.

	<u>Aye</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Abstain</u>	<u>Absent</u>
<b>Mayor:</b>				
<i>Larry Rennels</i>				
<b>City Council:</b>				
<i>Brandon Combs</i>				
<i>Matthew Hutti</i>				
<i>Jeff Lahr</i>				
<i>Tim Newell</i>				

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Mayor

**ATTEST:**

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City Clerk