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CITY OF OAKLAND



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OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

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Date: April 26, 2018To: City Council

From: Councilmember Kaplan

Re: Resolution Urging Kaiser Permanente To Protect Its Pharmacy Warehouse Employees

In Oakland From Being Laid Off, Relocated To Areas With Lower Wages, Or Outsourced To Companies That Pay Workers Less And Offer Fewer Benefits

Dear Colleagues on the City Council and Members of the Public,

Kaiser Permanente is one of the largest non-profit healthcare systems in the United States with \$3.8 billion in profits for the first three quarters in 2017, and a profit margin that increased 60 percent from 2016 to 2017. In addition, more than 55,000 Kaiser Permanente employees are members of SEIU-United Healthcare Workers West and are committed to providing outstanding patient care and improving access to affordable care throughout California.

Kaiser Permanente plans to lay off 57 Oakland workers associated with the pharmacy distribution warehouse on Coliseum Way. The loss of these jobs will deprive Oakland of solid middle class workers' wages and benefits, thus undermining the local economy. In addition, there is a concern about the risk to the public health of our community should vital medical materials become less available in an emergency due to such a plan, which could require them to come from further away, and not have adequate staffing here to deal with needs in this area.

For these reasons, I am submitting a Resolution urging Kaiser Permanente to protect its pharmacy warehouse employees in Oakland from being laid off, relocated to areas with lower wages, or outsourced to companies that pay workers less and offer fewer benefits.

Respectfully submitted,

Councilmember At-Large Rebecca Kaplan

City Attorney's Office



18 APR 26 PM 3:51

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No	C.M.S.
INTRODUCED BY COUNC	CILMEMBER KAPLAN

RESOLUTION URGING KAISER PERMANENTE TO PROTECT ITS PHARMACY WAREHOUSE EMPLOYEES IN OAKLAND FROM BEING LAID OFF, RELOCATED TO AREAS WITH LOWER WAGES, OR OUTSOURCED TO COMPANIES THAT PAY WORKERS LESS AND OFFER FEWER BENEFITS

WHEREAS, Kaiser Permanente is one of the largest non-profit healthcare systems in the United States, with \$3.8 billion in profits for the first three quarters in 2017, and a profit margin that increased 60 percent from 2016 to 2017; and

WHEREAS, Kaiser Permanente reported \$32 billion in reserves in 2017; and

WHEREAS, more than 55,000 Kaiser Permanente employees are members of SEIU-United Healthcare Workers West and are committed to providing outstanding patient care and improving access to affordable care throughout California; and

WHEREAS, these Kaiser Permanente positions are some of the best middle class jobs in the healthcare industry with outstanding pay and benefits; and

WHEREAS, Kaiser Permanente plans to lay off 57 Oakland workers associated with the pharmacy distribution warehouse on Coliseum Way; and

WHEREAS, laying off workers violates Kaiser Permanente's mission of building a community where everyone thrives, whether patients or employees; and

WHEREAS, patient care suffers when lower paid and less experienced workers are hired because it leads to more turnover; and

WHEREAS, there is a concern about the risk to the public health of our community should vital medical materials become less available in an emergency due to such a plan, which could require them to come from further away, and not have adequate staffing here to deal with needs in this area; and

WHEREAS, the loss of these jobs will deprive Oakland of solid middle class workers' wages and benefits, thus undermining the local economy; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Oakland City Council urges Kaiser Permanente to protect its pharmacy warehouse employees in Oakland from being laid off, relocated to areas with lower wages, or outsourced to companies that pay workers less and offer fewer benefits.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES –BROOKS, CAMPBELL WASHINGTON, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, GUILLÉN, KALB, KAPLAN AND PRESIDENT REID

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:		
	LATONDA SIMMONS	
	City Clerk and Clerk of the Council of the	
	City of Oakland, California	