

EESW

RESOLUTION NO. 19 - 2025

RECOGNIZING the federal employees of the Cincinnati region and **EXPRESSING** the opposition of the Mayor and Council to federal policies that undermine the federal workforce and its services.

WHEREAS, the federal government is the nation's largest employer and a major contributor to the regional economy of the Cincinnati metropolitan area, employing thousands of dedicated workers across critical agencies and functions; and

WHEREAS, as of November 2024, the federal government employed over three million people nationwide—representing 1.87 percent of the civilian workforce—and that number includes hundreds of our neighbors, friends, and family members here in Greater Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, the John Weld Peck Federal Building, constructed in 1964 and long a cornerstone of federal service delivery in downtown Cincinnati, houses vital agencies such as the Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau, National Labor Relations Board, and the Department of Homeland Security's Citizenship and Immigration Services, and is now scheduled to be sold, disrupting services and displacing employees; and

WHEREAS, the federal government mandated that all federal departments and agencies submit reorganization plans by March 13, 2025 that include sweeping layoffs, targeting nearly all 220,000 probationary federal employees, nearly nine percent of the federal workforce; and

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of federal employees have already been laid off in recent weeks, many with little to no notice, affecting workers at every level of government and threatening the continued delivery of essential services; and

WHEREAS, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, a vital agency created to protect American consumers from predatory financial practices, has been ordered to cease operations entirely; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Veterans Affairs has recently dismissed over 1,000 employees, further jeopardizing timely and adequate care and support for our nation's veterans; and

WHEREAS, nearly 200 employees at the Environmental Protection Agency working on environmental justice initiatives have been placed on leave, while similar cuts are being pursued at the Department of Justice and other agencies committed to equity and public health; and

WHEREAS, the United States Postal Service ("USPS"), established in 1792, continues to serve as an indispensable public service—delivering to more than 154 million residential and twelve million business addresses six days a week—and faces increasing threats of privatization and merger under Executive Order proposals that would move it under the U.S. Department of Commerce; and

WHEREAS, the 1971 Postal Reorganization Act affirms that the USPS “shall be operated as a basic and fundamental service” and that it is to be “supported by the people,” providing reliable and universal access to all communities; and

WHEREAS, both the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association and the Office of Personnel Management have raised concerns about the long-term effects of these workforce reductions, including delays in veterans’ benefits, social security claims, disaster response, and infrastructure projects; and

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the invaluable contributions of our federal workers and stands ready to assist impacted employees by connecting them with job opportunities within the City’s workforce and affiliated partners; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

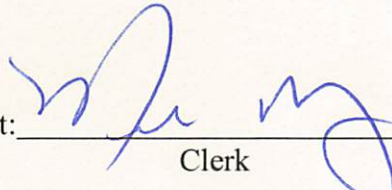
Section 1. That the Mayor and this Council firmly oppose recent federal policies that result in mass layoffs, arbitrary workforce reductions, and the privatization or dismantling of critical public agencies—actions which destabilize families, harm local economies, and erode public trust in government.

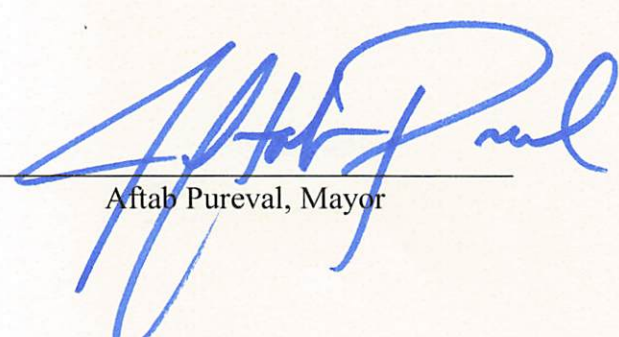
Section 2. That the City extends its deepest appreciation to all federal employees who serve our nation with integrity, diligence, and professionalism, and reaffirms its support for their continued employment and service within our community.

Section 3. That this resolution be spread upon the minutes of Council and that copies be forwarded to the following individuals through the office of Councilmember Mark Jeffreys:

- Everett Kelley, President, American Federation of Government Employees, Local 2031
- Brian Griffin, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Cincinnati AFL-CIO Labor Council
- Ted Thompson, President, National Association of Letter Carriers, Branch 43
- The U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors

Passed: April 9, 2025

Attest: 
Clerk


Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Submitted by Councilmember Mark Jeffreys