

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-_____

A RESOLUTION FOR A SWEATSHOP FREE PROCUREMENT POLICY

Recitals:

- A. The City spends approximately, \$_____ annually in public funds on uniforms and clothing.
- B. Some vendors of uniforms and clothing obtain clothing through their supply chain from contractors that utilize sweatshop labor.
- C. "Sweatshop Labor" means serious and repeated violations of laws of the jurisdiction where the work is performed or violations of core labor rights as defined by the International Labor Organization pertaining to non-poverty wages; employee benefits; health and safety, including exposure to hazardous toxic substances; labor, including collective bargaining rights; environmental conditions; nondiscrimination, harassment or retaliation, including laws prohibiting workplace and employment discrimination; freedom of association, and building and fire codes. In addition, it includes work performed by any person under a contract or subcontract that constitutes foreign convict or forced labor or abusive forms of child labor or slave labor.
- D. Contractors who engage in such serious and repeated violations are not "responsible" contractors as defined by ORS 279C.375(3) because such contractors do not have a satisfactory record of performance or a satisfactory record of integrity.
- E. The City does not wish to purchase goods and services that depend on sweatshop conditions that deprive people of their legal rights and dignity.
- F. The City Council wishes to ensure that the firms it contracts with to provide uniforms and clothing act with integrity and follow applicable local laws of the country of production and International Labor Organization standards, and that other subcontractors in the uniform and clothing supply chain also act with integrity and follow the local labor laws and International Labor Organization standards (hereafter referenced as "Sweat Free Procurement").
- G. The City Council wishes to ensure the integrity of its procurement process by not using contractors or subcontractors who engage in Sweatshop Labor practices. Such practices place responsible contractors at a competitive disadvantage and dissuade them from doing business with the City.
- H. By adopting this resolution, the City Council does not preclude the City or its contractors or subcontractors from doing business with any foreign country.
- I. Sweat Free procurement is a form of ethical purchasing.
- J. There is a proposed State and Local Government Sweatfree Consortium that would investigate and address working conditions of uniform and clothing suppliers' factories through worker outreach and education, independent monitoring of working conditions, and

by leveraging buying power on behalf of government entities affiliated with the Consortium.

THE CITY OF ASHLAND RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council wishes to create and implement a detailed Sweat Free Procurement Policy.

SECTION 2. As a first step, current uniform and clothing suppliers will be asked to disclose factory name and location information to Ashland's purchasing agent, effective immediately. For upcoming contracts, bidders must disclose supplier factory names and locations will qualify.

SECTION 3. The City shall support the creation of the State and Local Government Sweatfree Consortium to collaborate with other public agencies to share information and cost of independent monitoring of working conditions in supplier factories. The City intends to become a member of this Consortium when it is created.

SECTION 4. The City Council creates an ad hoc citizen committee to develop and recommend a Code of Conduct and Sweat Free Procurement Policy for the City of Ashland no later than March, 2009. The Mayor may appoint up to seven citizens to this ad hoc committee, the majority of whom must be workers' rights advocates, which will be supported by staff from the City's Administrative Services Department.

SECTION 5. After adoption of the City's Code of Conduct and Sweat Free Procurement Policy, the ad hoc committee will recommend to the City Council a process for an annual report on the status of contractors' compliance with the policy and any proposed policy changes that should be made.

SECTION 6. This resolution was duly PASSED and ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2008, and takes effect upon signing by the Mayor.

Barbara Christensen, City Recorder

SIGNED and APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2008.

John W. Morrison, Mayor

Reviewed as to form:

Richard Appicello, City Attorney