



# Kriss Worthington

Councilmember, City of Berkeley, District 7  
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## CONSENT CALENDAR

April 2, 2013

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington  
Councilmember Max Anderson  
Councilmember Jesse Arreguin

Subject: Support UNITE HERE! and the Workers at the Hyatt Hotels

### RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution supporting UNITE HERE! and the workers global boycott of Hyatt hotels in response to widespread evidence of harmful working conditions for hotel housekeepers.

### BACKGROUND

After many years of struggle, Hyatt workers and allies launched a global boycott of Hyatt on July 23, 2012, marking the largest escalation to date in an ongoing campaign for basic worker rights. Hyatt has singled itself out as the worst major chain hotel employer in America for abusing their hotel workers. It is vitally important communities and elected officials to stand with workers in their struggle for justice.

Pledge form from

[http://afl.salsalabs.com/o/5872/c/514/p/dia/action/public/?action\\_KEY=2049](http://afl.salsalabs.com/o/5872/c/514/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=2049)

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

### CONTACT PERSON

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Attachment:

1. Resolution

RESOLUTION NO. ##, ###-N.S.

SUPPORT UNITE HERE! AND THE WORKERS AT THE HYATT HOTELS

WHEREAS, Hyatt workers and allies launched a global boycott of Hyatt on July 23, 2012; and

WHEREAS, leaders from the AFL-CIO, the NFL Players Association, the National Council of La Raza (NCLR) and the Mexican American Legal Defense Fund (MALDEF), the National Organization of Women (NOW), the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, Netroots Nation, Interfaith Worker Justice, and more joined Hyatt housekeepers for the launch, which marks the largest escalation to date in an ongoing campaign for basic worker rights; and

WHEREAS, Hyatt has singled itself out as the worst major chain hotel employer in America. Hyatt has abused housekeepers and other hotel workers, replace longtime employees with minimum wage temporary workers and impose dangerous workloads on those who remain; and

WHEREAS, in response, Hyatt workers have taken bold steps to end mistreatment, speaking publicly about abuses, going on strike, and now, launching a global boycott of Hyatt; and

WHEREAS, it is vitally important communities and elected officials stand with workers in their struggle for justice; and

WHEREAS, Hyatt workers cannot take on their abusive multinational corporation alone and it is only when we have seen real solidarity between workers and community that we have seen changes and justice achieved; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the Council strongly discourage its Affiliates from holding any conventions, conferences, special events, or major meetings at Hyatt hotels covered by the UNITE HERE boycott.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the city of Berkeley call upon the City Manager to immediately suspend official travel of all City employees to Hyatt Hotels until the Council has determined that Hyatt has corrected its employment practices. This includes but is not limited to negotiating with City employees that they not be reimbursed by the City for expenses they initiate at Hyatt hotels.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Council of the city of Berkeley to widely disseminate information about the Hyatt Hurts campaign to key stakeholders in our community for the purpose of encouraging informed judgments regarding whether stakeholders should patronize, partner with or otherwise legitimize Hyatt hotels covered by the UNITE HERE boycott. Such Berkeley stakeholders include but are not limited to: Civil rights and social justice organizations, Churches and religious organizations, local

business owners; community leaders, city organizations, corporations and business trade associations, representatives and employees of federal, state, and local governments, academic institutions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Berkeley City Council call on all Berkeley residents to consider choosing alternative locations for conventions, conferences, special events, or major meetings at Hyatt Hotels covered by the UNITE HERE boycott.

*Above information quoted from website. Individuals or groups can sign the boycott pledge at: [www.hyatthurts.org](http://www.hyatthurts.org)*

