



City of Columbus

Office of City Clerk
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Legislation Text

File #: 2593-2012, **Version:** 1

BACKGROUND: The Department of Development is proposing to enter into a Jobs Growth Incentive Agreement with Vision Service Plan equal to twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount of personal income tax withheld on new employees for a term of five (5) years. Vision Service Plan will make a fixed asset investment of approximately \$350,000, which includes machinery, equipment, furniture and fixtures, create 35 new full-time permanent positions and retain 185 existing jobs in the City of Columbus.

Vision Service Plan was founded in Oakland, California in 1955 and has become the largest provider of vision insurance in the United States. Vision Service Plan offered the first prepaid, not-for-profit vision benefit. The company has over 56 million customers and provides services ranging from eye and vision care benefits to the manufacture and distribution of eyewear, and optical lab services. Vision Service Plan has established a number of call centers across the country including sites in Columbus, Ohio, Texas, Florida, and New York.

Vision Service Plan is proposing to expand its current Eastern Operations Center located at 3400 Morse Crossing, to meet its increased growth and consumer demand.

FISCAL IMPACT: No funding is required for this legislation.

To authorize the Director of the Department of Development to enter into a Jobs Growth Incentive Agreement with Vision Service Plan equal to twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount of new income tax withheld on employees for a term of five (5) years in consideration of the company's proposed investment of \$350,000, the creation of 35 new full-time permanent positions and the retention of 185 full-time jobs.

WHEREAS, the City desires to increase employment opportunities and encourage the creation of new jobs in the City in order to improve the overall economic climate of the City and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Development has received a completed Jobs Growth Incentive Application from Vision Service Plan; and

WHEREAS, Vision Service Plan is proposing to expand its Eastern Operations Center located at 3400 Morse Crossing; and

WHEREAS, Vision Service Plan has indicated that a Jobs Growth Incentive is crucial to its decision to expand the aforementioned office facility in Columbus; and

WHEREAS, the City of Columbus desires to facilitate Vision Service Plan's future growth at the project site; and

WHEREAS, in consideration of Vision Service Plan's proposed investment of \$350,000, the creation of 35 new full-time permanent positions and the retention of 185 existing jobs; and **NOW THEREFORE,**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

Section 1. That the Director of the Department of Development is hereby authorized to enter into a Jobs Growth

Incentive Agreement with Vision Service Plan equal to twenty-five percent (25%) of the amount of new income tax withheld on employees for a term of five (5) years.

Section 2. Each year of the term of the agreement with Vision Service Plan the City's obligation to pay the incentive is expressly contingent upon the passage of an ordinance appropriating and authorizing the expenditure of monies sufficient to make such payment and the certification of the City Auditor pursuant to Section 159 of the Columbus City Charter.

Section 3. That the City of Columbus Jobs Growth Incentive Agreement is signed by Vision Service Plan within 90 days of passage of this ordinance, or this ordinance and the credit herein shall be null and void.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.