



# City of Columbus

Office of City Clerk  
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## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 0049X-2018, **Version:** 1

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In Support of Working People in the case Janus v. AFSCME Council 31

**WHEREAS**, the United States Supreme Court is considering the case *Janus v. AFSCME Council 31*, which may decide whether public service workers such as nurses, teachers, police officers, and firefighters can be denied the freedom to collectively bargain as a member of a union; and

**WHEREAS**, the dedication and hard work of public service employees has a positive impact on the lives of every Columbus resident and contributes to the success and wellbeing of the entire city; and

**WHEREAS**, an unfavorable decision in this case would undermine the freedom for millions of working Americans to join together in strong unions; and

**WHEREAS**, the organized labor movement and union membership give people - particularly women and people of color - a powerful voice for themselves, their families, and their communities, while also ensuring that they are treated with dignity and respect at work; and

**WHEREAS**, workplace benefits earned through collective bargaining include the 40-hour work week, overtime pay, health and safety standards, paid leave, earned sick time, and reductions in the gender pay gap; and

**WHEREAS**, when working people organize and collectively bargain, they gain the power to raise wages and improve working conditions in ways that benefit individuals, their families, and entire communities; and

**WHEREAS**, Columbus is a stronger city when every citizen has the opportunity to earn a living wage that can support a family through their employment; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:** That this Council does hereby support the freedom of all city employees to exercise their right to a voice and dignity on the job through joining together in strong unions and urge the Supreme Court of the United States, in rendering its upcoming decision in *Janus v. AFSCME Council 31*, to consider the public benefit created by workers organizing.