

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Lawrence Henchen (DC 37)

Address: 125 Barclay St NYC

I represent: Lillian Roberts, EA-DC 37

Address: 125 Barclay St, NYC

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 690A

in favor in opposition

Date: 3/2/11

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Gregory Floyd

Address: _____

I represent: President, Teamsters Local 237

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. 690-A
 in favor in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Lt. Eddie Boles

Address: _____

I represent: Uniformed Fire Officers Association

Address: _____

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____
 in favor in opposition

Date: _____

Name: Arthur Cheliotis (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 6 Harrison St NYC N.Y.

I represent: CWA Local 1180

Address: 6 Harrison St

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 3-21-11

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Janka Gorovic

Address: 1942 Bronxdale Ave

I represent: myself NYC DOE Teachers

Address: Justice For All

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 3/21/11

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Joseph S. Cannon

Address: 121 Wilson St Apt 40

I represent: Civil Service Union Council

Address: 235 E 20th St

Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms

UNIFORMED
FIRE DEPARTMENT, CITY OF NEW YORK
FIRE OFFICERS
LOCAL 854, INTERNATIONAL ASSN. OF FIRE FIGHTERS, AFL-CIO
ASSOCIATION

225 BROADWAY ☆ NEW YORK, NY 10007 ☆ SUITE 401
TEL: (212) 293-9300 ☆ FAX: (212) 292-1560 ☆ EMAIL: WWW.UFOA.ORG

**Testimony from the Uniformed Fire Officers Association, Local #854, IAFF, AFL-CIO to Support
New York City Council Proposed Resolution No. 690-A**

My name is Lt. Eddie Boles and I am speaking on behalf of the Uniformed Fire Officers Association (UFOA) President Alexander Hagan and the 2500 dedicated Fire Officers who put their lives on the line everyday to keep the NYC citizens safe and rescue them when in danger.

I wish to first start by complimenting the City Council for presenting Resolution #690-A and standing with those public workers in Wisconsin and other states that are under attack and who lost the fundamental right of collective bargaining and the right to unionize. It's important to note that we are all Public Employees, including those members in the City Council and their staffs and we must stand up for all working people because what's being done is "morally wrong!" After trillions of taxpayers dollars were used to bailout corporate America, Governors like Scott Walker, who is directly financed by billionaires like the Koch brothers, want to slice the juggler vain of ALL working people in this country. This again is morally wrong!

The ability to negotiate is a fundamental principle in a Democratic society. That is what collective bargaining is... the ability of two parties to meet and negotiate a settlement that is fair to both sides. Since the beginning of human existence people have engaged in the ability to bargain, whether it was the farmer selling livestock or crops; or the cooper selling his wares at a marketplace; or a union negotiating with their employer over a contract; usually an amicable agreement was made and if both sides couldn't agree, there was a process to which disagreements could be settled. That is how America prospered. That is how this country was built.

Unfortunately, the Governor of Wisconsin and other cynics want to take this basic right away from their workforce. The workforce that assists those in danger and keeps our streets safe; the



AFFILIATED WITH

NEW YORK STATE AFL-CIO

NEW YORK CITY CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL AFL-CIO • MARITIME PORT COUNCIL OF GREATER NEW YORK & VICINITY
UNION LABEL & SERVICE TRADES COUNCIL OF GREATER NEW YORK & LONG ISLAND • NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL



workforce that builds our roads and bridges so citizens can safely travel to work each day; the workforce that educates the next generation of leaders in this country and ensures a safe learning environment for our children; the men and women who work in our water treatment facilities so we can have clean water to drink; the social workers who provide care and services for the most vulnerable in our society- children and the elderly; and the countless others who show up to work each day in hope of a fair wage and a safe work environment that has been negotiated through the collective bargaining process since the 1930's. And Governors like Scott Walker want to take that most basic right away. That doesn't sound like a free Democratic Society to me! That sounds more like a dictatorship that resembles a Feudal System of the Middle Ages.

Governor Walker's "Budget Repair Bill" is nothing more than a bill aimed at dismantling the voice of the middle class and all working people in this country. According to the Center for Media and Democracy in Madison, "while stripping \$1 billion from Wisconsin schools and local governments, Walker provided over \$200 million in tax cuts for corporations" which includes many of his major campaign donors like KochPAC Natural Resources and Wal-Mart. The truth among all the lies that is not being broadcasted is that the Wisconsin unions agreed to every concession offered by Walker including increased contributions by public employees for pensions and healthcare but they would not agree on giving up their right to collective bargaining and unionizing and Walker slammed the door in their face. Walker was not satisfied with getting just items to help the budget, he wanted to strip working people of their dignity and I'm proud to say that the Wisconsin workers said "NO!"

Another important point is that the Wisconsin firefighters and police officers were excluded from Walker's "ideological axe" but they stood with their fellow public employees because they felt an obligation to be in solidarity with all working people and fight this unethical attack.

Wake up America! Look what's happening throughout the Middle East and North Africa. Dictatorships are crumbling fueled by the frustration of average workers seeking a fair society. A society where a person can make a fair wage and have an opportunity to live a better life. A society where their children can freely go to school and pursue their dreams. A society where exploitation and tyranny are minimized and citizens can live without fear of their government.

America provides those opportunities but individuals like the Governors of Wisconsin, Ohio, Indiana and New Jersey, among others, want to take basic rights away from working people in this country. So today, the Uniformed Fire Officers Association proudly stands with the members of the New York City Council in solidarity with all working people in Wisconsin and other states that want to diminish all that has been fairly negotiated over the years. However, we, the workers, are resilient, we are persistent, we are organized, and more importantly we

are America! And we are not going away. Just look at the recent polls in Wisconsin and one will see that "74% of Wisconsin families support collective bargaining rights for public workers."

Governor Walker, remember as we approach the 10th Anniversary of that dreadful day of September 11th, when an evil enemy tried to take our liberty and freedom, workers from all over this country including workers from Wisconsin, stood united and participated in one of the greatest rescue efforts in human history and cleaned-up the WTC site in record time...all done by workers under collective bargaining agreements. I don't know what kind of America Governor Walker wants to raise his children in but it's not the America that we want to raise our children!



Council of School Supervisors & Administrators, New York City

New York State Federation of School Administrators
Local 1 American Federation of School Administrators, AFL-CIO

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 690-A

President
Ernest A. Logan

Executive Vice President
Peter J. McNally

First Vice President
Randi Herman, Ed.D.

Secretary
Mark Canizzaro

Treasurer
Laverne Burrowes

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Robert Kazanowitz
Richard Oppenheimer
Henry Rublo
Nancy Russo

Special Vice President-Retirees
Irwin Shanes

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On March 16, 2011, the Executive Board of CSA (Council of School Supervisors & Administrators) voted unanimously in support of the following resolution:

The Council of School Supervisors and Administrators stands proudly with the public employees of Wisconsin and other states whose collective bargaining rights are under siege. We are one with our fellow public school educators and all the public servants of Wisconsin who have sacrificed their personal lives in the short term, to defend their right to bargain collectively in the long term. Without that right, they stand to lose salaries that are commensurate with their service, working conditions that make professionalism and productivity possible, and benefits that foster family security and a dignified old age. They have been struggling for all of us, the current and future workforce of every state in the union, setting an example that has brought working people together now and far into the future.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ernest A. Logan

**Testimony of
Arthur Cheliotas
President of
Local 1180 of the
Communications Workers of America AFLCIO
to the
New York City Council
Committee on Civil Service & Labor
and the
Committee on Small Business**

Regarding Proposed Res. No. 690-A, Which states:

“Resolution proclaiming that the New York City Council stands in solidarity with public workers in Wisconsin, Ohio, and in other states around the country as their struggle for dignity and economic security is one shared by all New Yorkers and Americans.”

On March 21, 2011

My name is Arthur Cheliotas, President of Local 1180 of the Communications Workers of America.

We welcome this resolution before the New York City Council. We stand in solidarity with public workers in Wisconsin and around our nation as we struggle for dignity, justice, and respect.

The right to bargain collectively is a pillar of any true democracy. It offers workers the right to organize and ensure that their contributions to society are valued and justly compensated, that they have dignity as human beings no matter their economic or social status, and their employers, despite their power over them in the workplace, must respect them as equals because they are organized.

Throughout modern history whenever a totalitarian regime wished to dominate a nation it eliminated collective bargaining and free trade unions. Whether it was Stalin or Hitler, Mao or Mussolini, free trade unions empowered the common citizen and undermined their total control. Eliminating unions allowed them to concentrate the power and wealth of a nation in the hands of the few. They start with manipulation and coercion which leads to brutal and deadly force, all while waving the flag of their homeland.

Unfortunately our nation is moving down a very dangerous path that we all must understand. In the private sector, unions are a mere shadow of themselves. They once set a standard of living for all working people both in and out of unions. They built the middle class. Unions made sure that working Americans shared in the wealth they created. As productivity increased so did wages, benefits and pensions.

The last bastion of unions in our nation is in the public sector. The last bastion of middle class working standards are negotiated in the public sector and is now targeted for destruction by the rich and powerful whose greed and lust for power is boundless.

What is happening in Wisconsin is the latest attack on the middle class of this nation and our democracy as a whole. It is clear that this is a strategic and concerted attempt to dismantle unions, which is masquerading as a budget issue. This is not a fiscal issue; this is the equivalent of a corporate takeover of government. We should not lose sight of the fact that in our own city and state the same fabricated crisis exists because the elite rich have had substantial tax breaks and outright government grants that have reduced revenue.

What we are witnessing is the manifestation of the subjugation and devaluing of all workers in America and the erosion of the earning power of the middle class by a deliberate and well-funded effort to annihilate labor unions and jobs that provide decent wages and benefits. Our response to this is crucial. The middle class is shrinking and its very existence is at stake. The concentration of wealth in the hands of the few assures the destruction of our democracy. Analysis by the Fiscal Policy Institute shows that in 2007, the top 1% of US income earners received 25% of all the income in the nation, that percentage last reached that level right before the Great Depression. Even worse the top 1% in NYS received 35% of all the income earned in the state. And there is more bad news, the top 1% of income earners in NYC received 45% of all income earned in the city. What compounds our City's budget problems is that this top 1% in NYC not only earned 45% of the income, but they paid only 35% of the taxes. While the

bottom 55% paid 65% of the taxes this is a blatant illustration of income inequality and a regressive tax structure that creates resentment of government by the citizens of our city.

These trends assure a decline in the standard of living for an overwhelming majority of people in our nation, state and city. In effect, we are funding democracy only for the rich. Another way to consider the current trend is that it is socialism for the rich and brutal, free market, dog eat dog, capitalism for the rest of us.

You as the legislative body of our wonderful city must pause and ask, are you facilitating those powers that would destroy collective bargaining in contradiction to this proposed resolution? Do your own actions or compliant inaction in your other important work empower the rich elites to fund the destruction of our democracy? Those who have funded much of the destruction of organized labor reside in this city and have profited from the decline in unions. Are the austerity budgets we are being forced to accept any less a fabrication in New York than those initiated by Wisconsin's Governor Walker?

I submit to you that the play book is the same, it was probably written just a short walk away from here. They mock our democracy and we all have a duty to see that they are stopped.

Justice Louis D. Brandeis phrased it so succinctly when he said:

**"We can have democracy in this country,
or we can have great wealth concentrated in
the hands of a few, but we can't have both."**

The Greed Crisis in this country made a mockery of the moniker The Land of Opportunity. The greed of the oligarchs on Wall Street and the rich elite, and their insatiable quest for more is increasingly leading to the dismantling of the public good for the private gain. This manifests itself in the increasingly anorexic funding to public education, public health, and programs for the elderly and disabled, and more. In New York State alone, the budget proposal would cut \$1.5 billion to public education, \$2.85 billion to Medicaid, and \$1.2 billion to social services, mental health and transportation.

We are told that these cuts are necessary, and that our budgets are too big. But that is not the case; it is that revenue has decreased. It's because the rich and the multibillionaire corporations are not paying their fair share. Reports from The Huffington Post show that taxes paid by corporations are the lowest in American history. After deductions, write offs, and accounting tricks, some corporations are paying a tax rate of as low as 4%.

The way to solve these issues would be to make sure that corporations are being taxed properly and also to institute new taxes on the highest earners, while not allowing existing ones to expire. Maintaining the Personal Income Tax surcharge, which the Governor plans to allow to sunset at the end of this year, will generate over \$1 billion for this fiscal year and \$5 billion for each following year. If this surcharge expires, it will mean a tax CUT for the rich while slashing services for the poor and middle class. This is not shared sacrifice.

Government, which is supposed to provide basic services and protection to the average citizen against the power of the rich and their exploitation, has failed us. It has been

taken over by affluent and influential corporate interests. The well being of the financial sector and the rich has superseded that of working people, and this is very clear in Wisconsin, New York and across the country.

This is the time for solidarity. The important work public workers do is the foundation upon which commerce, industry and a civil society are built. We are the last bastion that is preventing the race to the bottom. If public sector unions fall, our democracy is threatened, the middle class ceases to exist and the American Dream will be just that... a dream.