

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**  
**2007 Legislative Session**

Resolution No. CR-81-2007

Proposed by Council Members Exum, Dean, Harrington and Bland

Introduced by Council Members Exum, Dean, Harrington, Bland, Olson, Campos, Knotts,  
Turner and Dernoga

Date of Introduction November 6, 2007

**RESOLUTION**

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Workers Rights

3 For the purpose of expressing the County Council’s support for the workers at Smithfield Foods,  
4 Inc. who have of alleged several claims of unfair labor practices against the Company’s Tar  
5 Heel, North Carolina Division.

6 WHEREAS, Smithfield Foods, Inc. is the holding company and parent corporation of  
7 Smithfield Packing Company, Inc., and

8 WHEREAS, Smithfield Packing Company, Inc. is an employer engaged in commerce  
9 defined by § 2(6) and 2(7) of the National Labor Relations Act, NLRA 29 U.S.C. § 151-169; and

10 WHEREAS, Smithfield Packing Foods, Inc. is one of the largest pork producers and  
11 processors in the world, and the Smithfield Packing plant in Tar Heel, North Carolina is the  
12 largest pork processing facility in the world, employing more than 5,500 workers and  
13 slaughtering more than 32,000 hogs a day; and

14 WHEREAS, several employees at the Smithfield Packing Company (the “Company”) in  
15 Tar Heel North Carolina have filed complaints against the Company with the National Labor  
16 Relations Board alleging that the Company has created an environment of intimidation, fear, and  
17 violence; and

18 WHEREAS, the National Labor Relations Board (“NLRB”) found that Smithfield Foods,  
19 Inc. / Smithfield Packing Company engaged in unfair labor practices in violation of several  
20 provisions of the National Labor Relations Act; and

21 WHEREAS, in August 2006, the NLRB ordered Smithfield Foods, Inc. / Smithfield  
22 Packing Company to cease and desist and take certain affirmative action designated to effectuate

1 the policies of the Act; and

2 WHEREAS, several additional complaints have since been filed with the NLRB and are at  
3 various stages of adjudication; and

4 WHEREAS, the evidence suggests that Smithfield Foods, Inc. / Smithfield Packing  
5 Company continues to create an unsafe working environment and engage in practices of  
6 intimidation, threats of unlawful discharge, and harassment;

7 WHEREAS, the County Council of Prince George's County is committed to sustaining the  
8 rights of all workers and supports their right to engage in their vocation free from interference,  
9 violence, threats or intimidation.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's  
11 County, Maryland, that the Prince George's County Council affirms their support for the workers  
12 at the Smithfield Foods, Inc. / Smithfield Packing Company Tar Heel North Carolina Division  
13 who have been victims of unfair labor practices from the same.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince George's County joins jurisdictions  
15 throughout the United States in expressing their concern for the workers at Smithfield Foods,  
16 Inc. as their campaign continues in seeking legal remedies and redress.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince George's County Council affirms its strong  
18 support for our Constitutionally guaranteed rights and liberties and is committed to rights of all  
19 workers to have safe working conditions in an environment free from intimidation and violence.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Council shall forward a copy of this  
21 Resolution to the National Labor Relations Board and Smithfield Foods, Inc located in  
22 Smithfield, Virginia.

Adopted this 13th day of November, 2007.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Camille A. Exum  
Chair

ATTEST:

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Redis C. Floyd  
Clerk of the Council