

RESOLUTION NO. 1810

A TRADE RESOLUTION TO RETAIN LOCAL JOBS

WHEREAS, the City of Hermiston seeks to maximize the benefits and minimize negative impacts of international trade in a manner that provides good, family-wage jobs for future generations; and

WHEREAS, existing international trade agreements have facilitated the offshoring of tens of thousands of Oregon jobs to foreign countries, according to U.S. Labor Department statistics; and

WHEREAS, economists report that tens of millions of additional U.S. jobs are vulnerable to offshoring if existing trade policies continue to expand; and

WHEREAS, today's international trade agreements extend far beyond the traditional realm of trade matters such as tariffs and quotas, and contain provisions that undermine federal, state and municipal authority in regards to economic development, public health and national security; and


WHEREAS, the Fast Track trade promotion authority that allows international trade agreements to be rushed through Congress without the scrutiny of ordinary committee review, amendment and debate procedures expires on June 30, 2007;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Hermiston respectfully urges and requests that Congress oppose renewal of Fast Track trade promotion authority and replace it with policymaking procedures that are more democratic, inclusive and that safeguard state and municipal rights;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City of Hermiston respectfully urges and requests that Congress oppose international trade agreements that facilitate the offshoring of Oregon jobs and instead seek out models for trade that raise living standards and provide good jobs in the United States;

AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to each Member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation and to Ambassador Susan Schwab, the United States Trade Representative.

PASSED by the Common Council this 14th day of May, 2007
SIGNED by the Mayor this 14th day of May, 2007


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY RECORDER