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TO:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

FROM:

David Whitaker, Director

Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE:

June 26, 2019

RE:

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE

REINSTATE FUNDING FOR THE GOODWILL FLIP THE SCRIPT

PROGRAM

Councilmember Janeé Ayers requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE REINSTATE FUNDING FOR THE GOODWILL FLIP THE SCRIPT PROGRAM.

Attached, please find our draft of the aforementioned resolution.

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

RESOLUTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER JANEÉ AYERS

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT THE MICHIGAN LEGISLATURE REINSTATE FUNDING FOR THE GOODWILL FLIP THE SCRIPT PROGRAM

- WHEREAS, The mission of the Detroit City Council is to promote the economic, cultural and physical welfare of Detroit's citizens and residents through Charter-mandated legislative functions; and
- WHEREAS, In April 1921, Reverend John Martin founded Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit. In 1970, Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit merged with the League for the Handicapped. Together these two organizations could provide more services and better serve the community; and
- WHEREAS, Today, Goodwill's team provides many quality services. Currently, they support more than 900 local businesses each year with a reliable workforce. Goodwill trainees receive classroom and vocational instruction. They also receive workplace behavior coaching, financial literacy, placement assistance and career support. The end result is skilled, mature and confident workers; and
- WHEREAS, Since 2003, the Goodwill Flip the Script Program has provided critical services, which include education, job training and mentoring, to the residents of the city of Detroit and Wayne County; and
- WHEREAS, Many of the individuals served by the Goodwill Flip the Script Program include returning citizens and those referred by the Michigan Department of Corrections. Returning Citizens are one of our most important at-risk populations and it is imperative that they are offered assistance in reintegrating into society; and
- WHEREAS, Flip the Script also offers financial literacy training to all citizens, via its Center for Working Families. Financial literacy is paramount to building and sustaining successful families. Therefore, the knowledge offered through this program is beneficial to the entire state of Michigan; and
- WHEREAS, Moreover, programs that support these at-risk populations must be funded and highly prioritized in our public policy. In the 2019-20 FY budget, the Michigan State House has proposed to cut the \$1.5 million in funding from the Goodwill Flip the Script Program. Cutting aid to this program would inflict enormous harm to the fabric of our communities; NOW THEREFORE BE IT
- **RESOLVED**, The Council recommends that the State Legislature restore in full the \$1.5 million in State funding to the Goodwill Flip the Script Program; **BE IT FURTHER**
- **RESOLVED,** That copies of this resolution be forwarded Governor Gretchen Whitmer, the Detroit delegation in the State House, and the City of Detroit's Lansing Lobbyist.