

**RESOLUTION 33 OF 2019**

BY THE CADDO PARISH COMMISSION:

A RESOLUTION OF THE PARISH OF CADDO URGING THE LOUISIANA STATE LEGISLATURE TO REPEAL STATE OVERREACH INTO LOCAL CONTROL OF WORKER PROTECTION POLICIES, AND TO OTHERWISE PROVIDE WITH RESPECT THERETO.

WHEREAS, Parish governments are closely connected to the needs of the communities they represent, and are uniquely positioned to pass laws and policies that reflect the views, values, and needs of their constituents.

WHEREAS, the Parish of Caddo is committed to protecting the power of local governments to act on the values and needs of their residents and promote a fair and equitable economy.

WHEREAS, the cost of living varies substantially across Louisiana, and the Parish of Caddo needs the freedom to determine the worker protection policies that best fit our community's needs.

WHEREAS, the United Way's ALICE Report states that 53% of Caddo Parish families are struggling to keep up with rapidly rising costs of living--including housing, health care, child care, and other basic necessities--but state law prohibits local governments from raising the local wage floor in order to help residents meet those rising costs of living.

WHEREAS, stronger worker protection policies in Caddo would give workers the security and freedom they need to spend more time with their families and lay the foundation for a safe and sustainable home environment.

WHEREAS, the local officials in Caddo Parish are dedicated to the health and well-being of our residents, and strong worker protection policies have been proven to be beneficial to individual and overall public health outcomes.

WHEREAS, stronger worker protection policies will result in a boost to our local economy through increased consumer spending at local businesses.

WHEREAS, stronger worker protection policies will provide further benefit to local businesses by boosting job retention and employee performance.

WHEREAS, higher wages for low-income earners provide a path for those workers to become more personally and financially invested in their community, since it is more likely they will become taxpayers and/or pay more into the local tax base.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Caddo Parish Commission in due, regular and legal session convened, that:

Section 1. That the tradition of local decision-making in Louisiana should be protected, as it provides each municipality the ability to preserve and enhance the many characteristics that make each of them unique, and allows municipalities to maintain the quality of life of their residents.

Section 2. That passage of legislation to repeal state overreach into local control of worker protection policies would help improve the lives of the residents of Caddo Parish and our local businesses by spurring consumer spending and creating a healthier, more sustainable local economy.

Section 3. That passage of legislation to repeal state overreach into local control of worker protection policies would allow the Caddo Parish Commission to act on the unique needs, values, and cost of living in Caddo Parish, including setting a local wage floor that more accurately reflects the needs of our community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if any provision or item or the application thereof is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions, items or applications which can be given effect without the invalid provisions, items or applications, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared severable.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to The Honorable Governor John Bel Edwards and to the House of Representatives and Senate of the State of Louisiana.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect upon adoption.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that all resolutions or parts thereof in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

Approved as to legal form:

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Parish Attorney

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Date

