

Wilmington, Delaware
June 4, 2015

#4058

WHEREAS, the vitality of the Port of Wilmington is critical to sustaining the economic growth and stability of our City and State; and

Sponsors:

**Council
President
Gregory**

WHEREAS, there has been a transformation of the shipping industry with the arrival of a new global fleet of mega-ships that can carry almost double the containers of the previous generation of ships; and

**Council
Member
Shabazz**

WHEREAS, a recent proposal to expand the Port of Wilmington to an undeveloped site on the Delaware River in New Castle would provide a viable opportunity to keep the Port more competitive over the next 50 years by accommodating larger ships that require bigger terminals; and

Co-Sponsors:
Council
Members
Chukwuocha
D. Brown
Dorsey Walker
Williams
M. Brown
Wright

WHEREAS, presently Longshoremen are among the highest paid blue collar workers in the country, with some earning more than \$100,000 a year; the proposed expansion has the potential to generate significantly more than 4,000 high paying jobs; and

WHEREAS, the prospect of the Port development could go a long way towards growing the middle class and allowing many of our residents the ability to earn livable wages thus likely helping to reduce crime in our City; and

WHEREAS, the concept calls for a public-private partnership at the Ports Riveredge that calls for a single large pier, or dock at Riveredge with seven or more berths for ships; and

WHEREAS, with six or more large container cranes, the port could work on the larger container ships, which are the highest paying jobs for Longshoremen.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that the City Council hereby supports the proposal to expand the Port of Wilmington and believes it will have a significant and lasting impact on the

growth of our City and State, and strongly encourages Governor Jack Markell and the Delaware General Assembly to take immediate action to execute the expansion.

Passed by City Council,
June 4, 2015

Attest: Traci A. Owens
Deputy City Clerk

Approved as to form this 31st
day of May, 2015.

Danica Chatman
Assistant City Solicitor

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution supports the proposal to expand the Port of Wilmington and strongly encourages Governor Jack Markell and the Delaware Assembly to take immediate action to execute the expansion.