RESOLUTION

Whereas,
    We at the Union League Club of Chicago uphold the values of citizenship, honesty and efficiency in the public administration of government; and

Whereas,
    The Chicago City Council’s “Big Box Living Wage” Ordinance adopted in July 2006 (“the Ordinance”) clearly violates the focus of efficient government and would adversely affect Chicago residents, employees, and prospects for the City’s economic growth and development; and

Whereas,
    The Ordinance would apply to stores with 90,000 square feet or more that are operated by companies with at least $1 billion in annual sales and specifies minimum pay for employees of $9.25 an hour and $1.50 in benefits beginning next July, rising to $10 and $3, respectively, by 2010, with annual cost-of-living increases applying after 2010; and

Whereas,
    The Ordinance will further limit job opportunities available to Chicago residents seeking first-time or part-time employment, particularly the lowest-skilled and hardest to place, especially in areas of the city where there are few if any employment options; and

Whereas,
    The Ordinance has notably affected planning and development of some large retailers and discourages retailers from opening new stores in Chicago, while purporting to help secure jobs for the city residents; therefore

Be It Resolved,
    That to promote the economic interests of Chicago’s residents and the vitality of the city’s economy and employment opportunities, the Union League Club of Chicago urges Mayor Richard M. Daley to veto said ordinance on or before September 13, 2006; and

Be It Further Resolved,
    That a suitable copy of this resolution be forwarded to Mayor Richard M. Daley and to other civic organizations concerned with this matter.

Adopted August 29, 2006 by the Board of Directors.

Charles Brummell, Jr.
President

Sandra L. Williams
Secretary