

Work Force

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Illinois International Port District (the "Port District") is a critical public asset and regional economic engine located on Chicago's Southeast Side, serving as a major freight, logistics, marine, rail, road, and river transportation hub for the City of Chicago, the State of Illinois, and the broader Midwest region; and

WHEREAS, as North America's largest tri-modal inland port, the Port District's economic impact falls far behind other comparable ports on the Great Lakes; and

WHEREAS, QSL America, Inc. (dba North America Stevedoring Company) is the largest operator within the jurisdiction of the Port District; and

WHEREAS, since May 22, 2025, QSL America workers represented by IUOE Local 150 AFL-CIO have been on strike at the Illinois International Port District protesting QSL America's unfair labor practices and unsafe working conditions, including paying substandard wages and failing to provide a safe work environment due to inadequate training, insufficient safety equipment, and poor maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the National Labor Relations Board has found merit in allegations that QSL America recruited a "company union" in an attempt to deprive the striking workers of their rights; and

WHEREAS, the lease agreement between QSL America and the Port District contains a Labor Unrest Clause that requires both parties "to use its good offices in negotiating and bringing to the swift and satisfactory conclusion any kind of labor dispute that may affect the interest of the District"; and

WHEREAS, both the duration of this strike and the resulting dramatic slowdown of economic activity at the Port District clearly show that both parties have failed to adequately address this ongoing labor dispute; and

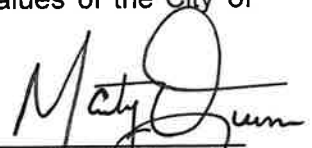
WHEREAS, given that the leases between QSL America and the Port District run through December 31, 2075, the City must take prompt action to protect workers at the Port District; and

WHEREAS, the City has a vital interest in ensuring that the Port District operates in a safe, efficient, and responsible manner, not only for the City as a whole, but also for the workers within the Port District; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the City Council for the City of Chicago, do hereby call on Mayor Brandon Johnson and the Board of the Illinois International Port District to terminate all leases between QSL America, Inc. and the Illinois International Port District so that QSL America, Inc. can be replaced by an operator more compatible with the values of the City of Chicago.



PETER CHICO
Alderman, 10th Ward



MARTY QUINN
Alderman, 13th Ward

