

OFFERED BY COUNCILOR BENJAMIN J. WEBER



CITY OF BOSTON

IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FIVE

ORDER FOR A HEARING TO EXPLORE HOW THE CITY OF BOSTON CAN HIRE LAID-OFF FEDERAL WORKERS

WHEREAS, The Trump administration is carrying out a mass reduction of the federal workforce. It has been reported that more than 100,000 federal employees have already lost their jobs in the past two months through layoffs; *and*

WHEREAS, Although attempts have been made to block these efforts and judges have found some of these firings to be illegal, the administration has made clear that its ultimate goal is to shrink the federal government under the cloak of “government efficiency”; *and*

WHEREAS, Last week the Department of Education announced that it would be eliminating nearly half of its workforce, positions that could impact funding for special education programs, financial aid and investigations of civil rights violations. This decision has led to the closing of the department’s regional office in Boston with at least 25 workers laid off, according to *The Boston Globe*; *and*

WHEREAS, Many states and municipalities have been working to mitigate the impact of cuts to the federal workforce. For example, targeted efforts to recruit fired federal workers have been launched in places such as Hawaii, Pennsylvania, Virginia, New York state, Montgomery County in Maryland, and Fairfax County in Virginia; *and*

WHEREAS, More than 30,000 federal workers live in the Greater Boston area. Early this month the Healey-Driscoll administration launched mass.gov/fedup to assist workers recently laid off by the Trump administration, a webpage that includes resources for impacted veteran federal workers; *and*

WHEREAS, As of April 2024, the City of Boston had nearly 2,000 vacancies across multiple city departments, including many of those positions remaining unfilled for extended periods of time; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston should examine whether it should recruit and train federal employees who have recently fallen victim to draconian, mass layoffs without cause; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That the appropriate committee of the Boston City Council hold a hearing to explore how to foster recruitment and training efforts to hire public sector workers who have recently been laid off by the Trump administration with members of the Mayor’s budget team, labor team, departments with the highest vacancies, and those impacted are invited to attend.

Filed on: March 19, 2025