



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
www.cityofmadison.com

Master

File Number: 31725

File ID: 31725	File Type: Resolution	Status: Items Referred
Version: 2	Reference:	Controlling Body: CITY ATTORNEY
Lead Referral:	Cost:	File Created Date : 09/24/2013
File Name: Declaring the City of Madison as a TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership)-Free Zone.		Final Action:
Title: Declaring the City of Madison as a TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership)-Free Zone.		

Notes:

Code Sections:

CC Agenda Date: 10/01/2013

Indexes:

Agenda Number: 15.

Sponsors: Scott J. Resnick and Marsha A. Rummel

Effective Date:

Attachments:

Enactment Number:

Author: Ald. Scott Resnick

Hearing Date:

Entered by: dfields@cityofmadison.com

Published Date:

Approval History

Version	Date	Approver	Action
1	09/24/2013	Daniel Bohrod	Approve

History of Legislative File

Ver- sion:	Acting Body:	Date:	Action:	Sent To:	Due Date:	Return Date:	Result:	
1	Council Office	09/24/2013	RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES 2.04, 2.05, 2.24, & 2.25 - MISC. ITEMS					
	Action Text:	This Resolution was RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO ADOPT UNDER SUSPENSION OF RULES 2.04, 2.05, 2.24, & 2.25 - MISC. ITEMS						
	Notes:							
1	COMMON COUNCIL	10/01/2013	Refer	CITY ATTORNEY			Pass	
	Action Text:	A motion was made by Schmidt, seconded by Resnick, to Refer to the CITY ATTORNEY. The motion passed by voice vote/other.						
	Notes:							

Text of Legislative File 31725

Fiscal Note

No appropriation is required.

Title

Declaring the City of Madison as a TPP (Trans-Pacific Partnership)-Free Zone.

Body

WHEREAS, the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) is being negotiated between the United States and 12 or more Pacific Rim countries by the U.S. Trade Representative in secret without any consultation with our local government, either directly or through the National League of Cities or the U.S. Conference of Mayors or the National Association of Counties; and

WHEREAS, the text is being drafted with advice from transnational corporations which will benefit greatly from its rules; and

WHEREAS, the TPP text has not been made available to the public or even to our local officials; and

WHEREAS, the Administration expects Congress to approve the Trans-Pacific Partnership under "Fast Track" procedural rules, which forbid Congress from amending it and which require an up-or-down vote in 60 days; and

WHEREAS, the TPP would have direct, potentially undesirable consequences for our municipality, its people, its local businesses and its ecological systems on which all life depends; and

WHEREAS, the Investment Chapter of the TPP, which was leaked in 2012, would allow foreign corporations to sue the U.S. and its states over any law or regulation which would reduce their future profits and, therefore, potentially rob our municipality of needed protections for our people, local businesses and environments; and

WHEREAS, TPP financial rules would weaken or prevent regulation of risky financial products such as "interest rate swaps," thereby threatening the financial stability of our government and, more broadly, the stability of our overall economy; and

WHEREAS, U.S., state and local food safety rules could be challenged by foreign corporations as "illegal trade barriers" if higher than standards in the TPP, thus threatening the health of our residents; and

WHEREAS, the TPP would provide large pharmaceutical firms with new rights and powers to increase medicine prices and limit access to cheaper generic drugs, which would impact our residents; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. would agree to waive "Buy American" or "Buy Local" requirements aimed at enhancing our local economy and creating local jobs; and

WHEREAS, we would have no right or ability to represent our interests before the foreign tribunals which would have the authority to hear cases brought by corporations under the TPP; and

WHEREAS, such rulings might require taxpayer compensation, which could impact the financial health of our municipality and its residents; and

WHEREAS, "Fast Track" procedures make it impossible for our elected representatives to adequately study the Trans-Pacific document presented to them in order to determine if this proposed Agreement is in the best interests of the American people and our local residents; and

WHEREAS, this review is especially important since the Trans-Pacific Partnership will supersede current federal, state and local law and prohibit our representatives from taking certain actions to better our society and economy in the future;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Madison can hereby declare as a matter of law that the City of Madison is a TPP-Free Zone where we will not recognize the secretly negotiated rules laid down without our consent nor any decisions by any secret tribunals which would in any way diminish our ability to act in the best interests of our residents, our workforce and our local businesses and to protect our ecological systems on which all life is based.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Madison will convey this resolution to our Congressional delegation, to President Obama and to U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman, with our demand that all text be made public and the TPP be re-written to promote the interests of workers, protect the environment and improve the quality of life in all participating countries.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that if, despite the harm to our community and our nation, Congress approves the TPP, the City of Madison will take all necessary measures to ensure that this resolution is enforced.