

CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Regional Medical Center at Memphis, commonly known as The MED, is an acute-care teaching hospital that serves a six-state region within 150 miles of Memphis, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Med is a pioneer in medical breakthroughs as well as a safety net for those who are unable to get quality health care elsewhere; The Med is best known for our cutting-edge trauma and burn centers, and is also home to 50 areas of specialty including wounds, high-risk obstetrics, neonatal medicine, sickle cell and HIV/AIDs; and

WHEREAS, care provided by The Med such as the trauma and burn centers, high-risk obstetrics and neonatal medicine is extremely costly; combined with the facts that none of the services The Med provides are profitable and one-third of their patients pay nothing at all, the hospital has uncompensated care cost estimates of \$120million each year and The Med is seeking \$32 million in new, recurring funding each year in order to survive; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Memphis and the surrounding area served by The Med are fully aware of the value of this institution and each of us knows that one day we ourselves may need to be treated at The Med; we know the impact of the loss of The Med would be dire to other area hospitals and those in need of the type of critical care only The Med can provide; and

WHEREAS, Memphis City Government wants to help fund The Med as do many individuals in our community; though the economy is hard on everyone these days, City of Memphis employees want to follow the lead of Shelby County Government, who has recently created a voluntary payroll deduction to allow employees to have a contribution in the amount of their choice to be withheld from each paycheck for the benefit of The Med.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Memphis City Council directs the Human Resources Division to set up a voluntary, pre-tax payroll deduction so city employees may elect an amount to be withheld each pay period for the benefit of the Regional Medical Center at Memphis and that notice to employees and retirees and a form to make such election be sent with the next employee / retiree paychecks.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Memphis City Council urges the Light Gas and Water Division and all employers in our area to make this same opportunity available to its employees.

MYRON LOWERY

MEMPHIS CITY COUNCILMAN