

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL NO. 237:
AN ACT REGULATING SELF-CHECKOUTS IN GROCERY ESTABLISHMENTS**

WHEREAS: Senate Bill No. 237, filed by Senator Paul R. Feeney, proposes to regulate the use of self-checkout stations in grocery establishments across the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS: The bill would establish reasonable limits on the number of self-checkout stations permitted in operation at any one time, require adequate staffing of manual checkout stations, and ensure appropriate employee oversight of automated checkout systems; and

WHEREAS: Grocery store workers play an essential role in local economies and communities, and maintaining adequate staffing levels promotes job quality, workplace safety, and fair labor standards; and

WHEREAS: Consumers benefit from accessible and staffed checkout options, including seniors, persons with disabilities, families with young children, and residents requiring assistance during the checkout process; and

WHEREAS: The proposed legislation would provide enforcement authority to the Massachusetts Division of Standards, establish a clear complaint process for residents and workers, and protect employees and consumers from retaliation; and

WHEREAS: The City of Somerville has consistently supported policies that advance worker protections, consumer accessibility, and equitable economic practices across retail sectors; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

RESOLVED: That the Somerville City Council hereby expresses its support for Senate Bill No. 237, *An Act Regulating Self-Checkouts in Grocery Establishments*; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED: That the Somerville City Council respectfully urges the Massachusetts General Court to advance and enact this legislation to promote consumer access, worker protections, and responsible implementation of retail automation; **AND BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Somerville state legislative delegation, the Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, and Senator Paul R. Feeney for their consideration.