

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

October 11, 2012

Ald. Tony Zielinski
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“Buy Milwaukee/American” proposal passes committee, headed for Common Council vote

The full Milwaukee Common Council will vote **October 16, 2012** on a proposal that would require the City of Milwaukee to purchase certain Milwaukee-made goods, following the plan’s approval Wednesday by the Finance and Personnel Committee.

Ordinance author **Alderman Tony Zielinski** applauded the broad support the proposal has received so far, and said that passing it into law can have a significant positive impact on the local and American economies. As a major purchaser of goods, a decision by the City of Milwaukee to invest taxpayer money in the local economy would pump millions of dollars into creating much-needed jobs that otherwise have been shipped overseas.

“Our taxpayers want those jobs here,” Zielinski said. “And the city should use its purchasing power to support local employers and the Milwaukeeans they hire.”

The proposal defines Milwaukee-made goods as any article that is manufactured, mined or produced in the city, where the cost of the components made in Milwaukee used to produce the goods exceeds 50 percent of the total cost of the components. For purchases valued at more than \$30,000, the city would be required to select Milwaukee-made goods, provided that the selection does not increase the cost by more than 12 percent. If Milwaukee-made goods are not available, the city would be empowered to buy American-made goods meeting the same criteria.

The Finance and Personnel Committee added a Jan. 1, 2015 sunset provision to the proposal in order to pilot the program. The full Common Council will vote on approving the proposal at its regularly-scheduled meeting, October 16, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

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