



SR1753

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Good jobs are the foundation of a strong economy
3 and a thriving society where the American Dream is within
4 reach, the dignity of work is honored, families are nurtured,
5 and communities can flourish; and

6 WHEREAS, For many decades, the Nabisco plant (now owned by
7 Mondelez International) on Chicago's Southwest Side has
8 provided hundreds of jobs that have sustained working-class
9 families and helped them to buy homes, educate their children,
10 and give back to their communities, all while contributing to
11 the success of its products and shareholders; and

12 WHEREAS, In recognition of the plant's importance to the
13 Illinois economy, its then-owner, Nabisco Biscuit Company, was
14 awarded State and city tax credits in 1993 in excess of \$90
15 million as an incentive to stay in Chicago; as recently as
16 2013, Mondelez received a State EDGE tax credit conditional on
17 the creation of 25 new jobs; and

18 WHEREAS, Mondelez applied its EDGE credit to its facility
19 in Naperville in a move that was legal at the time but enabled
20 its massive disinvestment in Chicago as it added just 25 jobs
21 in Naperville while preparing to eliminate 600 jobs - half of
22 the workforce - at the Southwest Side Oreo plant and relocate

1 much of its production to Mexico; and

2 WHEREAS, Allowing EDGE beneficiaries to create or retain
3 jobs at one Illinois location while moving many more positions
4 out of the State from another location, thus avoiding their job
5 creation and retention obligations, seriously undermined the
6 core purpose of using public funds for economic development
7 incentives; and

8 WHEREAS, Under Governor Bruce Rauner, the Department of
9 Commerce and Economic Development has adopted a new policy
10 whereby multiple facilities operated by EDGE recipients will no
11 longer be considered separate entities, so corporations
12 receiving tax credits cannot play a shell game with layoffs at
13 taxpayer expense; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we commend the Rauner
16 administration for closing the EDGE credit loophole and urge
17 the Governor and the Department of Commerce and Economic
18 Development to continue working with the General Assembly to
19 tighten accountability in all corporate incentive programs,
20 ensuring taxpayers dollars are used to create good-paying jobs
21 that sustain families and communities for the long term; and be
22 it further

1 RESOLVED, That we urge Mondelez International to
2 reconsider its decision to move production lines out of Chicago
3 and out of the United States, and instead to work fairly and in
4 good faith with its loyal employees, the unions that represent
5 them, and the State of Illinois in order to keep Oreos
6 American-made and continue to invest in its human capital in a
7 city that has supported its products' success for many decades;
8 and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
10 delivered to Governor Rauner, DCEO Acting Director Sean
11 McCarthy, and Mondelez International Chief Executive Officer
12 Irene Rosenfeld.