

SweatFreeCommunities

A Network for Local Action Against Sweatshops

Cities and States Calling for a State and Local Government Sweatfree Consortium

Maine, New Jersey, Pennsylvania

Our coalition [of Governors and States] will explore and develop strategies soon after formation, including the possibility of joining existing coalitions of universities and emerging coalitions of cities already working to put an end to procurement from sweatshops. Moreover, the coalition could consider the use or formation of a consortium – such as the Worker Rights Consortium, which has worked well for universities – to investigate complaints of States’ contractors and subcontractors subjecting their workers to sweatshop conditions.

– Governor John Baldacci (Maine), February 28, 2006, announcing formation of Governors’ Coalition for Sweatfree Procurement and Workers’ Rights. Governor Jon Corzine (New Jersey) and Governor Edward Rendell (Pennsylvania) have joined the Coalition.

Los Angeles

Enforcement of the Sweat-free Procurement Ordinance would include, but not be limited to, the following activities...

4. Explore the possibility of developing a consortium of governmental entities to allow for cost sharing of monitoring and enforcement activities by an independent monitor. The consortium could be modeled after those formed by colleges and universities that fund monitoring and enforcement activities by an independent monitor through payment of an annual fee. The independent monitor for the colleges and universities conducts comprehensive on-site assessments at targeted factories identified as having the most egregious working conditions based on information obtained from employees, advocacy groups and other sources.

- Report from the Office of the City Administrative Officer regarding Sweat-Free Procurement Ordinance and Amendment to Contractor Responsibility Ordinance, November, 2004

San Francisco

The City and County may... enter into contracts with any entity and cooperative agreements and arrangements with any public entity for assistance in implementing, administering, or enforcing this Chapter, and shall explore efficient and cost-effective mechanisms for ensuring the compliance of Contractors.

- San Francisco sweatfree ordinance, September 2005

San Francisco

By consolidating our purchasing power and coordinating enforcement, our cities can better assure that anti-sweatshop policies achieve their intent. Along those lines our city is interested in organizing a consortium of public jurisdictions to advance sweatfree policies.

- Mayor Gavin Newsom, November 2005

Madison

[The Committee on Sweatfree Purchases] is also encouraged to communicate with other units of government to encourage similar policies to further increase the effectiveness of this ordinance in achieving its policy goals.

- Madison sweatfree ordinance, November, 2005

Providence

Establishment of Consortium. The City shall also explore mechanisms employed by other governmental entities to ensure that businesses that contract with the City are in compliance with this section... The mechanisms explored shall include...

- 1. Establishing working relationships with other public agencies that have enacted sweatfree procurement laws, and advocacy organizations, labor organizations, and other appropriate agencies to share information regarding manufacturers, vendors, and suppliers.*
- 2. Develop a sweatfree consortium with other states, cities, school boards, or other public entities that allow for cost sharing of monitoring, and enforcement activities by a nonprofit independent monitor.*

- Providence sweatfree ordinance, May 1, 2006

Toronto

It is recommended that..

(2) the Treasurer investigate the potential for collaboration with other government jurisdictions on a verification program...

- Toronto Staff Report from City Manager Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer, February, 2006