



Jewish culture for a just world

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Contact: Joanna Gallai, Joanna@anatgerstein.com, 917-584-4145

Lynsey Billet, lynsey@anatgerstein.com, 718-793-2211 ext. 105

**Statement on Today's Signing of the Fast Food Worker Empowerment Act
From the Workmen's Circle**

(New York, N.Y.) Ann Toback, Executive Director of the Workmen's Circle, issued the following statement today after Mayor Bill de Blasio signed into law the Fast Food Worker Empowerment Act:

"Today's historic signing of the Fast Food Worker Empowerment Act is the culmination of years of rallies and protests, testimonies and meetings, petitions and emails, all proclaiming that the voice of the people will not be ignored. Our City is standing up for the countless individuals working in the fast-food industry by ensuring they will have more reliable schedules that enable them to take care of their children, continue their education, work other jobs, and plan their lives. No longer will workers suffer mandatory so-called "clopening" shifts which do not allow for enough time to sleep. No longer will employees lose opportunities to temporary staff or new hires. The Workmen's Circle's progressive Jewish community has been fighting for workers' and immigrants' rights since our founding more than 100 years ago, and we are particularly proud of the part of this groundbreaking legislation that will allow workers to form their own non-profits to educate colleagues about their rights and advocate for changes in their communities. Today's action is vitally important to the future of our city."

About The Workmen's Circle:

The Workmen's Circle has been cultivating a proudly progressive, diverse, and inclusive community rooted in Jewish culture, tradition and social justice activism for more than a century. Since our founding, the needs and priorities of our community have evolved and today's Workmen's Circle is responding in new and exciting ways. We seed and support a network of eight vibrant Jewish supplementary schools; create opportunities to connect to Jewish culture, including a global Yiddish language program; celebrate our rich heritage; host a summer camp, Camp Kinder Ring; and take action for social and economic justice. Together, as we always have, we are working to build a *shenere un besere velt far ale* – a better and more beautiful world for all. Learn more: www.circle.org.

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