

STATE HEADQUARTERS OFFICE

1212 JEFFERSON ST. S.E. SUITE 300, OLYMPIA WA 98501-2332 (360) 352-7603 • (800) 562-6002 • FAX (360) 352-7608

March 15, 2021

United Commercial Food Workers 21 ATTN: Rodney McMullen, CEO 5030 1st Ave. S., Suite 200 Seattle, WA 98134

Dear Mr. McMullen:

The 47,000 public employees of AFSCME Council 28/WFSE call on you to halt plans to close QFC stores in Seattle and to treat your employees with dignity and respect.

Frontline grocery and retail employees are heroes. They have sacrificed their health and safety, and in many cases their lives, so we can put food on our tables.

They deserve our respect and admiration, but most importantly they deserve safe working conditions and hazard pay. Your decision to sue the cities of Burien and Seattle and to close stores to avoid complying with democratically enacted hazard pay laws is destructive and un-American.

Your explanation for this decision flies in the face of logic.

If your company's profits have doubled over the past year, if you can afford to pay yourself \$21 million a year, nearly 800x what your employees make, you can afford to pay your employees a few more dollars an hour while they risk their lives at work.

The key to getting through this pandemic, to getting through any national emergency, is for all of us to make sacrifices, support one another, and protect those most at risk.

Your employees have sacrificed. You have not.

We urge you to do the right thing and work with your employees.

Respectfully,

Mike Yestramski, President AFSCME Council 28/WFSE

Leanne Kunze, Executive Director AFSCME Council 28/WFSE

cc: WFSE Executive Board
WFSE Executive Committee