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**MAYOR EMANUEL AND ALDERMAN CURTIS INTRODUCE RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE
MONDELEZ TO RECONSIDER 600 LAYOFFS AT SOUTH SIDE PLANT**

Plant Has Produced Some of America's Most Popular Products for Almost 70 Years

Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Alderman Derrick G. Curtis (18th) today introduced a resolution to urge Mondelez International to reconsider its plan to lay off 600 employees and discontinue certain production lines at its South Side plant and instead become part of the city's manufacturing renaissance.

"The city of Chicago and Mondelez have a long history and it is our sincere hope that our partnership continues," said Mayor Emanuel. "We are urging Mondelez to take a closer look at the talent of Chicago's workforce and the trend of other companies that are expanding their manufacturing operations here in Chicago. We hope Mondelez reconsiders this decision and instead decides to be a part of the exciting future that is being built by the residents on the South Side of the city of Chicago."

The National Biscuit Company, which later became Nabisco, opened in the 1950s what was then the largest commercial bakery in the world on Chicago's Southwest side at 73rd Street and Kedzie Avenue in the Chicago Lawn/Ashburn communities. Many of the most popular brands of cookies in America have been made there, including Oreo and Chips Ahoy cookies, and Ritz and Premium crackers.

"This plant employs some of the best and hardest working people in Chicago," Alderman Curtis said. "We are urging Mondelez to reconsider closing it and join the many companies that are choosing to grow and create jobs on the South Side of Chicago."

The facility at one time employed as many of 4,000 workers and helped create Chicago's middle class, thanks to the good union wages earned at the bakery. In 2015 Nabisco's parent company, Mondelez, announced it would move key production lines of Oreo cookies and Ritz crackers, along with 600 jobs, out of Chicago to Salinas, Mexico.

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