

BUY AND HIRE AMERICAN

WHEREAS, the Teamsters represent hundreds of thousands of workers engaged in North American manufacturing and service sectors and, therefore, we have a large and unique stake in government procurement policy; and

WHEREAS, the Biden-Harris Administration has committed to an ambitious, pro-worker program of infrastructure investment to “Build Back Better” that depends on robust rules for government procurement to Buy and Hire American; and

WHEREAS, the Teamsters are in solidarity with other manufacturing unions on the imperative of robust Rules of Origin, and with farmers and ranchers on the importance of Country of Origin Labeling; and

WHEREAS, Rules of Origin in procurement policies that advance the rule of law and workers’ rights must account for the unfair trade practices of non-market economies, like China; and

WHEREAS, bus manufacturing has provided a sustainable middle class job for Teamster members, and the procurement of components and materials for bus rolling stock will be comprised of American materials wherever possible; and

WHEREAS, domestic procurement should include preference in the service sectors, including call centers in the communications service industry and long haul/cross border trucking or maritime services in the transportation sector, in addition to the traditional preference in raw materials and manufactured goods; and

WHEREAS, federal procurement rules administered through the Department of Agriculture, especially as to school lunches, should include stringent requirements for domestic fruit, vegetables and meat products without any exceptions for cost differentials compared to imported foodstuffs; and

WHEREAS, Canadian companies that provide goods and services in binational procurement supply chains should enjoy exemptions from Buy American regulations because the U.S. and Canada have similar commitments to labor rights and strong environmental standards and uniform worker accreditation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED at this 30th International Convention that we commend the Biden-Harris Administration for its commitment to domestic procurement as set forth in the Buy American Executive Order dated January 25 as well as the Executive Order promoting resilient Supply Chains dated February 24; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the International Brotherhood of Teamsters will work with the U.S. and Canadian governments to ensure policy outcomes that guarantee open binational supply chains and good jobs for Teamsters and other organized workers on both sides of the border; and

FINALLY, BE IT RESOLVED that the International Brotherhood of Teamsters will continue to fight and lobby for federal and sub-federal procurement policies that give preference to American goods and services, especially to the benefit of Teamster members and our brothers and sisters in other unions in the U.S. and Canada.