

REEF Act

WHEREAS, Teamster Rail Conference members and all railroad workers receive sickness and unemployment benefits pursuant to the Railroad Unemployment Insurance Act (RUIA), and

WHEREAS, the RUIA is administered by the U.S. Railroad Retirement Board, a federal agency, and

WHEREAS, RUIA benefits are funded exclusively by taxes paid by the railroads, and

WHEREAS, because RUIA taxes are collected by and benefits are paid by the federal government, these benefits have been improperly subject to sequestration — or reduction — because of the Budget Control Act of 2011, and

WHEREAS, this sequestration has been suspended during the COVID Pandemic, and

WHEREAS, it is unconscionable that benefits not paid by taxpayers are reduced for sick, injured, and unemployed Rail Teamsters solely for federal budgeting purposes,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the delegates to the 30th International Brotherhood of Teamsters Convention go on record in support of the Railroad Unemployment Equity and Fairness Act (“REEF Act”), S. 545, which has been introduced by Senators Rob Portman (R-OH), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and Deb Fischer (R-NE), and H.R. 2900, which has been introduced by Representatives Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the delegates to the 30th International Brotherhood of Teamsters Convention go on record as urging the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives for passage of both S. 545 and H.R. 2900, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the delegates to the 30th International Brotherhood of Teamsters Convention go on record in support of the Rail Conference unions’ efforts to work for passage of the REEF Act, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the delegates to the 30th International Brotherhood of Teamsters Convention go on record as urging President Biden to sign the REEF Act into law upon passage.