

‘RIGHT TO WORK’ IS WRONG

WHEREAS, federal law guarantees no worker can be forced to become a union member or to provide any monetary support to a political or social cause they do not believe in; and

WHEREAS, ‘right-to-work’ laws are designed to weaken and break unions; and

WHEREAS, unionization has boosted the wages and job security of all workers; and

WHEREAS, the average worker in a ‘right-to-work’ state makes approximately \$5,000 a year less than workers in free bargaining states; and

WHEREAS, the poverty rate is higher in ‘right-to-work’ states (15.3% vs 13.1%) and ‘right-to-work’ states have a higher rate of low-wage jobs (26.7% vs. 19.5%); and

WHEREAS, 12 of the 14 states with the largest gender pay gap are ‘right-to-work’ states; and

WHEREAS, ‘right-to-work’ jeopardizes worker safety; workplace fatalities are 51% higher in right-to-work states; and

WHEREAS, health insurance coverage is nearly 4% lower in ‘right-to-work’ states; and

WHEREAS, academic research shows that ‘right-to-work’ laws have no impact on economic growth and no influence on employment; and

WHEREAS, strong unions create a stronger middle class; and

WHEREAS, the share of income going to the middle class, defined as the middle 60 percent of the population, is below the national average in ‘right-to-work’ states; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Brotherhood of Teamsters will continue to expose that ‘right-to-work’ is wrong; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that International Brotherhood of Teamsters and its affiliates will educate members, the public and elected officials about the real purpose and effect of these laws; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and its affiliates will continue to lobby, work in coalitions and identify supportive politicians to stop all efforts to implement ‘right-to-work’ laws and roll back those laws that exist.