COMMITMENT TO POLITICAL ACTION

WHEREAS, our ability to protect the livelihood, safety and retirement security of Teamster members and retirees depends on laws and regulations made at the federal, state and local level; and

WHEREAS, through endorsements, contributions and grassroots mobilization our Union can help determine which elected officials make these laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, our Union can financially support Teamster-friendly candidates through our political action fund called Democrat, Republican, Independent Voter Education (DRIVE); and

WHEREAS, Teamster members and their families constitute a large voting bloc that can be mobilized to support Teamster-friendly candidates; and

WHEREAS, actively engaging with elected officials, regardless of party, at all levels government is essential to advancing the labor related legislative goals of our Union; and

WHEREAS, strategically combining financial support, grassroots mobilization and effective lobbying can result in legislation with significant positive impact on Teamster members, retirees, and their families, as evidenced by the inclusion of multiemployer pension reform in the American Recovery Act of 2021.

WHEREAS, the Teamsters Build Back Stronger campaign has proven to be an effective means of harnessing political power to translate electoral victories to legislative victories under the three (3) pillars of secure pensions, strong unions and good jobs; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, at this 30th International Convention that the International Union and all Joint Councils and local unions will commit to actively engage in the political process at all levels of government; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Joint Councils and local unions will work to increase the number of members making voluntary contributions into DRIVE and use those funds to support candidates who have committed to support policies that will benefit Teamster members, retirees and their families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Joint Councils and local unions will engage their members on the political issues that impact working families, educate their members about the candidates that support the Teamster position on these issues, and work to ensure that their members cast their ballots for Teamster-aligned candidates; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Joint Councils and local unions will engage elected officials at every level through direct lobbying, member lobby days and coordinated grassroots activism with the IBT and other Teamster affiliates to translate electoral success to legislative victories on the Build Back Stronger priorities of secure pensions, strong unions and good jobs; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Teamster members, officers and staff at all levels of the Union will work to protect the future of our members, retirees and their families by making political action through DRIVE, grassroots mobilization and lobbying a top priority.