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RESOLUTION NO. 1

Of the Annual Meeting, April 27-April 30, 2014

IN SUPPORT OF THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

WHEREAS, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters has led the fight in support of workers' rights in the United States and Canada for more than a century, and current events such as the anti-labor legislation passed in Michigan and Ohio, shows that our fight is far from over, and

WHEREAS, the IBT's General Executive Board and officers continue to pursue their agenda of positive change, working to protect our hard-won benefits through tough legislative advocacy while reaching out to unorganized workers in the U.S. and Canada, and supporting our union brothers & sisters in their struggles overseas.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters, including Joint Councils No. 40 and No. 53, and our 65 affiliates IBT/GCIU/BLET in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and West Virginia, salutes the International Brotherhood of Teamsters on its unwavering record of service and support for workers and their families, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters continue to support the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and its programs.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

Of the Annual Meeting, April 27-April 30, 2014

IN SUPPORT OF POLITICAL ACTION AND VOTER REGISTRATION

WHEREAS, the recent events in Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio and New Jersey where anti-worker legislation and anti-labor politicians are on the rise and a direct threat to our existence, and

WHEREAS, the continuing economic recession has increased the pressure on state & local governments to develop new sources of tax revenue. These entities have now declared war on workers' wages and benefits. Now more than ever, political action and voter registration is a must to protect our members' jobs, and

WHEREAS, since 1984, the Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters has fought for pro-worker legislation in Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey, Delaware and West Virginia, and our efforts continue, and

WHEREAS, the failure to register to vote and to vote have brought us to a critical juncture in history because now there are many elected officials in office that are extremely anti-labor.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters reaffirms its commitment to its strong political action program, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters urges all members and their families to register and vote in all future primary and general elections, and to support our endorsed political candidates because failure to stop the anti-labor candidates from being elected will result in the erosion and elimination of good paying jobs, benefits and the rights of workers.

RESOLUTION NO. 3

Of the Annual Meeting, April 27-April 30, 2014

AGAINST RIGHT-TO-WORK LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, despite its misleading name, this type of law does not guarantee anyone a job and it does not protect against unfair firing, and

WHEREAS, by undermining unions, so called “right-to-work” laws actually weaken the best job security protections workers have-the union contract, and

WHEREAS, a state “right-to-work” law stops employers and employees from negotiating a type of agreement known as a union security clause that requires all workers who receives the benefits of a collective bargaining agreement to pay their share of the costs of representing them, and

WHEREAS, these laws say unions must represent every eligible employee, whether or not they pay dues, in other words, “right-to-work” laws allow workers to pay nothing and still get all the benefits of union membership, and

WHEREAS, these laws aren’t fair to dues-paying members, and if a worker who is covered by a union contract and does not pay dues is fired improperly, the union must use its time and money to defend them no matter what the cost. Amazingly under this “right-to-work” legislation nonmembers who are covered under a union contract can sue their union claiming it has not represented them well enough.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the PA Conference of Teamsters strongly opposes any and all legislation that will weaken unions and the process of collective bargaining, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference calls on all PA affiliates to stand ready and with the Conference now that this type of legislation has reared its ugly head in PA

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RESOLUTION NO. 4

Of the Annual Meeting, April 27-April 30, 2014

PA H.B. 1507 (PAYCHECK DECEPTION BILL)

WHEREAS, with more money pouring into politics from big corporations than ever before, it's crucial that working families are able to protect our own interests, and

WHEREAS, this "Paycheck deception" bill would create burdensome restrictions that interfere with union members' rights to participate in the political and legislative process, and

WHEREAS, these laws also weaken the ability of working people to advance working family issues such as legislation that would create jobs and stop job outsourcing, and

WHEREAS, by forcing unions to obtain authorization from members every year for voluntary paycheck deduction contributions to our union's political action fund, it puts brakes on these important contributions, and

WHEREAS, it allows corporations to continue to use their profits to contribute as much as they want to politicians, and

WHEREAS, it's backed by billionaires and big businesses who want to control our state without any opposition.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, This is the first step toward "right-to-work" in Pennsylvania. The PA Conference of Teamsters and our 65 affiliates must stop these attacks on the middle class and union workers by letting your representative know we will not be silenced and we will never surrender in our fight to preserve the union in PA, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference calls on all PA Senators and Legislators to stand with the working men and women of the Commonwealth of PA and vote against this bill.

RESOLUTION NO. 5

Of the Annual Meeting, April 27-April 30, 2014

IN SUPPORT OF PREVAILING WAGE LAWS

WHEREAS, prevailing wage laws ensure that workers on public construction projects paid by taxpayer dollars are paid a wage comparable to the local standard or prevailing wage, and

WHEREAS, these laws prevent contractors from low-balling bids and undercutting community wages with cheap unskilled labor, and they make sure work is done by highly qualified and trained workers who know what they are doing, and

WHEREAS, these requirements ensure high-quality construction work to prevent cost overruns, and

WHEREAS, now prevailing wage laws are under attack by contractors who are more concerned with having a low-wage workforce than in the quality of work being done, and

WHEREAS, corporate groups and anti-union Contractors who strongly oppose prevailing wage laws as well as the politicians they helped elect who in turn are repeating their lies, and

WHEREAS, prevailing wage laws have been in existence since 1891 and were made the law of the land in 1931 when Congress passed the Davis-Bacon Act.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the PA Conference of Teamsters strongly supports maintaining the Prevailing Wage Laws, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference calls on all of our affiliates to contact your Senators and Legislators and tell them not to adversely amend or abolish PA's prevailing wage laws. that have been in existence since 1891 and were made the law of the land in 1931 when Congress passed the Davis-Bacon Act.

RESOLUTION NO. 6

Of the Annual Meeting, April 27-April 30, 2014

IN SUPPORT OF PA MISCLASSIFICATION LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, previously a misclassification amendment “The Harkin Amendment” that would have addressed the issues of misclassified employees failed to be passed by 1 vote, and

WHEREAS, it is time that the PA House and PA Senate readdress the issue of Fedex misclassifying their workers as independent contractors rather than employees, and

WHEREAS FedEx Ground improperly classifies its drivers as independent contractors and is embroiled in numerous federal and state investigations and dozens of private lawsuits over this practice, and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that more than \$4.7 billion in federal income is lost due to this practice. At the state level, misclassifying 1 percent of workers results in an average of \$198 million lost annually to state unemployment insurance funds, and

WHEREAS, in PA a survey revealed that the state loses more than \$200 million in its unemployment insurance fund and \$81 million in lost workers’ compensation premiums each year, and

WHEREAS, the egregious practice of misclassification also hurts responsible employers who pay their workers related taxes, provide basic workplace protections to employees and respect their workers’ right to join a union.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the PA Conference of Teamsters strongly supports this much needed legislation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference calls on all of our affiliates to contact your PA Senators and PA Legislators and tell them to address the misclassification issue.

RESOLUTION NO. 7

Of the Annual Meeting, April 28 – May 1, 2013

IN SUPPORT OF THE D.G. YUENGLING & SON BOYCOTT

WHEREAS, the contract between Teamsters Local No. 830 and D.G. Yuengling & Son expired on March 31, 2006. Yet, on March 9, 2006, Yuengling withdrew union recognition, declaring it would no longer negotiate with Local 830, and launched a union busting campaign. This situation has not changed, and

WHEREAS, at the request of Local 830, the PA Conference is continuing its boycott of the following D.G. Yuengling brands: Yuengling Premium Beer, Yuengling Light, Lord Chesterfield Ale, Dark Brewed Porter, Traditional Lager, Light Lager, and Original Black & Tan, and

WHEREAS, Dick Yuengling has publicly stated he supports “Right-to-Work” legislation in Pennsylvania.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters continues to support Teamsters Local 830 in its efforts to fight the company’s union-busting campaign, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the PA Conference of Teamsters urges all PA Conference members and their families to send Dick a strong message by not buying Yuengling products.

RESOLUTION NO. 8

Of the Annual Meeting, April 27- April 30, 2014

AGAINST CONVERTING THE PA TURNPIKE INTO AN ELECTRONIC TOLL ROAD

WHEREAS, the Turnpike Commission has provided good paying jobs to the hard working citizens of PA for many years, and

WHEREAS, a report conducted by McCormick Taylor and Wilber Smith Associates recommends the placement of gantries over the turnpike's travel lanes that will record the vehicle by E-Z Pass, photo or video thereby eliminating over 700 Teamster toll collector jobs, and

WHEREAS, the cost of conversion would be in excess of 319 million dollars and any cost savings are dubious given the cost of implementation and maintenance, as well as the cost of additional people on unemployment., and

WHEREAS, elected PA officials campaigned on the platform that they would create jobs in PA, instead they and the Turnpike Commission aim at eliminating over 700 good-paying middleclass jobs, and

WHEREAS, since the opening of the turnpike on October 1, 1940, toll collectors have been on the front line working the toll booths by greeting out-of-state travelers and also assisting many travelers on a daily basis with directions and other vital information.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters adamantly opposes converting the PA Turnpike into an electronic toll road, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference calls on all PA Senators and Representatives to oppose transforming the turnpike into an all electronic highway and to protect the jobs of over 700 hardworking Teamsters by looking at alternate sources of income, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference will follow this issue closely and should it resurface, we will call upon all our affiliates in PA to once again contact their elected officials and strongly oppose the conversion of the turnpike into an all electronic highway. Elected officials need to protect good paying jobs in PA, not eliminate them.

RESOLUTION NO. 9

Of the Annual Meeting, April 27-April 30, 2014

IN SUPPORT OF OUR U.S. TROOPS

WHEREAS, thousands of members of the United States Armed Forces remain on active duty in Middle East and many other parts of the world, and

WHEREAS, hundreds of these servicemen and women are proud Teamster members of the various Armed Forces Reserves called to active duty. These dedicated Teamsters, along with their fellow servicemen and women who have completed their military service and returned home, are true patriots and a credit to their families, our nation, our International Union and to the Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters pledges its continued support of our Armed Forces now on active duty in Afghanistan and other locations, and of those serving in the Reserves, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters thanks and salutes these brave men and women for their selfless and heroic patriotism and wishes them all a safe tour of duty and a speedy return home, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is their sacrifices over the years that has made it possible for us to enjoy our standard of living such as the right to form unions.

RESOLUTION NO. 10

Of the Annual Meeting, April 27-April 30, 2014

AGAINST PA H.B. 1154 (Anti-Stalking Bill)

WHEREAS, When Pennsylvania passed the stalking and harassment law in 1993, it was carefully crafted and amended to avoid unintended consequences. The concern at the time was that despite the law's intent, it could potentially be abused to allow an unscrupulous business to accuse picketing workers of harassment, or to allow an employee to accuse his boss of stalking if they received an unwanted phone call during a labor dispute, and

WHEREAS, The amendment that carved out the exemptions for both labor and management was introduced by a Republican Representative, and it was necessary to make sure that the law did not infringe on Constitutionally protected activities.

WHEREAS, now HB 1154, which would repeal the exemptions to the stalking law, was passed by vote on the House floor. This is one more step towards criminalizing union membership in Pennsylvania and now it is before the PA Senate.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the legislation would repeal protections provided in Pennsylvania's anti-stalking statute that, since 1993, assure both worker representatives and employers not be subjected to criminal charges and politically motivated prosecutions for engaging in conduct that is protected by Federal Labor Law, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters is asking the PA Senate to send a message to stop trampling on labor's constitutionally protected activities and vote no on HB 1154.

RESOLUTION NO. 11

Of the Annual Meeting, April 27-April 30, 2014

FAST TRACK LEGISLATION ON THE WRONG TRACK

WHEREAS, trade deals with China cost \$37 Billion in lost U.S. wages and 2.7 million jobs, and

WHEREAS, NAFTA was to create 200,000 jobs but instead killed 700,000 jobs, and

WHEREAS, bad trade deals cost the U.S. the loss of 60,000 factories, and

WHEREAS, Fast Track Legislation only requires Congress to take only a quick up-or-down vote on secret trade deals like the Trans-Pacific Partnership and does not allow such agreements to be amended. It limits Congress' constitutionally mandated oversight of such trade deals and lets others decide what's best for America. The result is fewer good-paying U.S. jobs and unsafe food and products for Americans, and

WHEREAS, the U.S.-Korea Free Trade Agreement (KORUS) is coming up on its two-year anniversary. Supporters promised it would create 70,000 American jobs from increased exports, but the reality is much different. In fact, the most recent administration numbers crunched by Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch shows Michigan has lost 2,800 jobs from the pact and seen a \$518 million drop in net exports to Korea. Overall, more than 40,000 Americans are now out of work due to the agreement little publicized trade deal, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that when the U.S. negotiates a trade agreement, every provision should benefit working families, not big corporations. But it is clear that has not been happening. It didn't happen with NAFTA, it isn't happening with KORUS and it won't happen with TPP. People need to realize this and Congress needs to understand it. Numbers don't lie. Workers are losing under these trade deals. The PA Conference along with the IBT are asking Congress to implement a new plan of action now and before it is too late, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any trade deal should have a chance to be debated before Congress. But that is not likely to happen when it comes to the TPP if the administration gets its wish. It wants a quick up-or-down vote using fast-track trade authority, but that would stop those in the House and Senate from amending the trade pact or even discussing it fully. That is no way to handle a deal that could lead to thousands and thousands of hard-working Americans getting a pink slip from their employers. Maybe the time has come for constituents to start giving their elected Congressman pink slips that no longer support keeping jobs in America but who support these one-sided trade deals.

RESOLUTION NO. 12

Of the Annual Meeting, April 27-April 30, 2014

IN SUPPORT OF THE BLET'S LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

WHEREAS, the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET) are requesting legislation be enacted to prohibit the operation of locomotives in a long-nose fashion, which has an adverse impact on the safety and health of our union brothers and sisters working on road assignments, and

WHEREAS, the BLET wants the PA House and PA Senate to enact legislation to preserve the use of whistle boards along the railroad right-of-way. This is a safety appliance that offers a reminder to Engineers that a public road crossing is being approached and it is an aid and safety appliance in bad weather and at night, and

WHEREAS, the BLET requests legislation be enacted to ensure the safety of railroad crews being transported to/from trains and terminals that the van drivers will be properly rested, have a valid license and be free of dependencies, and

WHEREAS, The BLET requests that legislation be enacted that would not require engine and train crews to provide their PA driver's license to police forces in the event of a train-vehicle-pedestrian accident since Railroad crews are not required to have a driver's license to operate a train. An employee ID should be sufficient.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters stands with our BLET Brothers and Sisters and furthermore, pledges to assist the BLET with all our resources to help them with their legislative agenda.



RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE 2014

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