

Proclamation of Solidarity in Support of Native American Dignity and Rights

WHEREAS, the American Indian population has a long and proud history of caring for their elders, women, children, tradition, environment and all of God's creatures; and

WHEREAS, the original inhabitants of these lands have long suffered from European civilization policies, and continue to lag behind in many benefits and advancements that are too slowly becoming available to other non-Caucasian populations of North America; and

WHEREAS, native American tribes have a centuries-old kinship with the indigenous peoples of all North, Central and South American countries, as they shared the same lands for many generations before they were subjected to the eastern practices of genocide and bounties, and

WHEREAS native Americans have the right to protect their traditions and histories, as well as to fully participate in the arena of jobs, health-care, education, and in building a bright future together with all people who share this land today; and

WHEREAS all peoples of this earth are deserving of respect and support; and

WHEREAS the Executive Council of the AFL-CIO has established a number of constituency groups providing a bridge to diverse communities, strengthening partnerships to enhance the standard of living for all workers and their families, and ensuring that organized labor hears and responds to the concerns of the communities represented.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers proclaim our solidarity with the Indigenous Peoples who were the original occupants of the Americas;

and be it further RESOLVED that we support their rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; and be it further

RESOLVED that the California Labor Federation forward this resolution to the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor & Congress of Industrial Organizations, and urge that body to use its authority to add a constituency group that is tasked with addressing Native American labor and human rights issues;

and be it finally RESOLVED that the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, will urge its affiliates to similarly adopt this resolution, and forward it to the AFL-CIO Executive Council for action.

ADOPTED this ____ day of _____. 2013, by the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO.