The following resolution will be considered by the DNC Resolutions Committee at its meeting on February 24, 2011, in conjunction with the meetings of the Democratic National Committee, February 24-26, 2011.

Submitted by: Linda Chavez Thompson, DNC Vice Chair/Texas
John J. Sweeney, At-Large/Maryland
Gerald McEntee, At-Large/Maryland
Lee Saunders, At-Large/Maryland
Doris Crouse Mays, Virginia
Steve Powell, At-Large/Illinois
Larry Cohen, At Large/District of Columbia
Donna Brazile, DNC Vice Chair/District of Columbia
Hon. Mike Honda, DNC Vice Chair/California
Hon. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, DNC Vice Chair/Florida
Raymond Buckley, DNC Vice Chair/New Hampshire
Alice Germond, DNC Secretary/West Virginia
Maria Elena Durazo, California

Resolution Saluting America's Working Families

WHEREAS, America’s working families are the backbone of our communities and the foundation upon which our great nation was built; and

WHEREAS, working men and women exemplify the heroic patriotism that we aspire to -- when our country came under attack on 9/11, our first responders unhesitatingly rushed to the front lines where they saved countless lives with the sacrifice of so many of their own; it is the nurses and teachers and so many others who devote themselves every day to keeping our families and communities healthy and giving our children a shot at a brighter future; it is working men and women who build and maintain the infrastructure of our lives, from roads to bridges to broadband to green technology; it is the unsung service workers whom we rely upon to prepare and serve our food, mop the floors and maintain our hotels; it is working people in thousands of industries and occupations who make our economy work; and

WHEREAS, all working women and men have dignity and the right to respect and a free choice to use the strength of their numbers to gain a voice at work; and

WHEREAS, protecting the freedom of America’s workers to form unions and bargain collectively to gain a voice at work and a better life is the law of the land and a core principle of the Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, without the freedom to join together in unions, working people would have no way to check unrestrained corporate power, no way to secure fair wages, no way to curb the outsourcing of good jobs and no way to secure balance in our economy;

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party always has been, and always will be, the champion and defender of working men and women and their freedom to come together in unions; and
WHEREAS, whether it's creating the minimum wage and Social Security, fighting pay discrimination, enhancing worker safety, ending child labor, or creating the weekend, the Democratic Party always has been, and always will be, a fierce advocate for an economy that works for everyone; and

WHEREAS, America’s workers are under vicious and unrelenting attacks across the country from politicians using the same old politics to silence their voices and eliminate their ability to check corporate power through their unions; and
WHEREAS, these attacks on working families are blatant political payback to corporate and Wall Street CEOs for their unprecedented support of anti-worker candidates; and

WHEREAS, these anti-worker Governors and State Legislators are trying to slash workers’ salaries, benefits and pensions, earned through years of contributions, while not asking Wall Street, corporations and the very wealthy to pay their fair share; and

WHEREAS, these anti-worker Governors and State Legislators continue to promote outsourcing American jobs overseas; and

WHEREAS, the Democratic Party is committed to fighting for, and taking action on behalf of, the millions of Americans who are struggling to find work and support their families;

WHEREAS, too many Democratic elected officials have joined the chorus of anti-union politicians or refused to stand tall for America’s working families and the American Labor movement;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Democratic National Committee (DNC) encourages Democratic candidates and officeholders at all levels of government to stand in solidarity with America’s working families and their unions and oppose deceptive legislation such as so called “right to work” and “paycheck protection” legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the DNC encourages Democratic candidates and officeholders at all levels of government to oppose, in active and visible ways, these attacks on working families and their unions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the DNC encourages Democratic candidates and officeholders at all levels of government to actively support, in visible ways, workers’ local organizing campaigns and collective bargaining – while publicly challenging Governors, State Legislators or corporations that thwart workers’ freedom to form unions to improve their lives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the DNC recommends that Democratic Committees at the state and local levels pass similar resolutions, and advocate state laws and local ordinances supporting and defending the rights of working Americans.
DNC Resolutions Committee
(as of February 2011)

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