



Railroad Workers United

Solidarity • Unity • Democracy

The Rank & File in Action!

Railroadworkersunited.org ♦ info@railroadworkersunited.org

RWU Resolution of Support for a \$15-an-Hour Minimum Wage

Whereas millions of low paid workers across the United States are raising their voices and organizing for a minimum wage of \$15 an hour; and

Whereas this demand is completely justified, given the cost of living and that fact that the current federal minimum wage of just \$7.25 an hour is well below what it was in terms of real purchasing power in the 1970s; and

Whereas, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price inflation calculator, the minimum wage of \$1.60 an hour in 1968 would in fact be equivalent to \$10.90 today when adjusted for inflation.

Whereas this demand for a \$15 an hour minimum is modest, realistic, and winnable; and

Whereas the labor movement should do all that it can to support these workers and show them and their fellow citizens that unions support the lowest and poorest paid workers in society; and

Whereas bringing up the wages of these low paid workers benefits all of society and specifically working people by bringing up the wages of everyone; and

Whereas putting more money in these workers' pockets will act to stimulate the economy and has a positive ripple effect that will benefit the economy in general; and

Whereas, all union workers – including railroad workers – will benefit from such a universal minimum wage increase in our contract bargaining with the employer; and

Whereas numerous unions have come out in support of \$15 an hour;

Therefore, Be it Resolved that Railroad Workers United supports the demand for “\$15 an hour” immediately and without compromise; and

Be it Further Resolved that RWU encourages its membership and all railroad workers to join in support actions such as rallies, demonstrations, sit-ins, etc. that are designed to win this crucial demand: and

Be it Finally Resolved that RWU encourage the rail unions to adopt similar resolutions if they have not done so already and likewise encourage their membership to act in support of this demand.

**Adopted by the RWU 5th Biennial Convention - Chicago, Illinois
April 1, 2016**