



Railroad Workers United

Solidarity • Unity • Democracy

The Rank & File in Action!

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Resolution in Support of Universal Unionization of the Working Class

Whereas, unions are a foundation of a modern industrial democratic society, an essential fundamental building block; and

Whereas, for all their faults and imperfections, just like democracy itself, unions are essential if society is to achieve basic standards of safe and healthy working conditions, limited hours, time away from the workplace, living wages, health, welfare and dignity on the job; and

Whereas, the decline of unions and union membership in recent decades, especially in the U.S., is closely associated with the decline in living standards of the majority of people and the widening of the gap between the 1% and everyone else; and

Whereas, the revival of the labor movement is in the interests of all working people, railroaders specifically, and society as a whole; and

Whereas, union density has fallen dangerously low, and appears to be headed so low that our unions' very existence may soon be threatened; and

Whereas, as long as the vast number of working people are not union members and are kept out of becoming union members, many will fail to realize and understand the benefits of being union members and may be hostile to those who are union and will not support us; and

Whereas, universal unionization of the workforce will be the best way to ensure safer workplaces, better healthcare, a higher standard of living, more leisure time, income parity, an end to poverty, and to create a basis for national unity and solidarity;

Therefore, be it Resolved that RWU encourages all workers to immediately engage in the task of organizing themselves into a union; and

Be it Further Resolved that RWU supports the rights of all workers to freely organize into a union of their choosing for the purposes of collective bargaining with their employer; and

Be it Further Resolved that RWU supports the elimination of all existing impediments to unionization; and

Be it Further Resolved that RWU calls upon all unions to engage in organizing the unorganized as the highest priority of the labor movement; and

Be it Finally Resolved that RWU calls upon the rail unions to organize the short lines, regional railroads and other spinoffs and castoffs of the Class One railroads in addition to the myriad of railroad contractors that are now providing logistical support that was once performed in-house by unionized railroad workers.

Adopted by the RWU Steering Committee 11/2/16