

Resolution in Solidarity with Immigrant Communities and Workers

WHEREAS, migration is a human right and a civil right, rooted in the fundamental freedom to move, to seek safety, and to pursue opportunity and dignity; and,

WHEREAS, BIPOC communities have historically borne the brunt of U.S. militarism, economic displacement, and carceral state policies—including unjust deportations, family separation, raids, detentions, surveillance, and labor exploitation; and,

WHEREAS, our communities face the very real threats of enhanced ICE raids, expanded deportation infrastructure, and renewed bans on immigration based on race, religion, and national origin, including promises to bring back mass workplace raids and internment-style camps; and,

WHEREAS, union members, immigrant workers, and student protestors are being increasingly targeted by federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies acting in collusion with private corporate interests, weaponizing the immigration system to destabilize movements for justice and labor rights; and,

WHEREAS, immigrant labor is foundational to every sector of our economy—from agriculture and construction to health care and service work—and one in four U.S. workers is foreign-born; and,

WHEREAS, many immigrants are union members, organizers, and community leaders who deserve not just protection but celebration; and,

WHEREAS, the labor movement has a moral and strategic obligation to stand in solidarity with immigrant workers, not only by speaking out, but by taking action to ensure their rights, safety, and dignity; and,

WHEREAS, immigrant detention centers—many of which are privatized and profit-driven—are sites of racialized violence, labor exploitation, and constitutional violations, including forced labor in violation of the 13th Amendment; and,

WHEREAS, as a labor movement, we must recognize that these attacks are part of a broader authoritarian agenda that seeks to silence dissent, dismantle worker power, and criminalize people of color, especially those who organize for justice; and,

WHEREAS, LCLAA members, along with our siblings in APALA, CBTU, Pride at Work, and other constituency groups, believe in a global and intersectional labor movement rooted in liberation, anti-racism, and the defense of all working people regardless of status; now therefore be it,

RESOLVED, that the WPEA, declares its unequivocal solidarity with all immigrant communities under threat, and condemns fascist, white supremacist, and xenophobic policies targeting immigrants and refugees; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that WPEA will engage its leadership and staff in ongoing immigrant solidarity training, including “Know Your Rights” and workplace protection education, and will make these resources widely available to its affiliates; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that WPEA will, support legislation that protects immigrant workers from retaliation, and oppose all funding and policy efforts that expand the carceral immigration system; and be it further,

RESOLVED, that WPEA urges all labor bodies to oppose any immigration policies that criminalize organizing, protest, or student activism—including retaliation against international students, Palestinian solidarity activists, or any group targeted for First Amendment-protected activity.

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