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Resolution to Boycott Philippine Airlines

WHEREAS, Philippine Airlines, otherwise known as PAL, serves the Philippines and 24 destinations including Los Angeles, San Francisco, Las Vegas, Honolulu, and Guam; and

WHEREAS, until recently, Philippine Airlines and its union workforce, represented by the Philippine Airlines Employee Association (PALEA), maintained a collaborative relationship; and

WHEREAS, after posting record sales of \$75.2 million in 2011, Philippine Airlines decided to implement an illegal "fire and rehire" outsourcing scheme to cut compensation and rehire workers at significantly reduced rates; and

WHEREAS, with the unprecedented blessing of the Philippine Department of Labor and the President of the Philippines, in October 2011, Philippine Airlines illegally fired some 2,600 workers and outsourced their jobs to subcontractors in violation of the existing union contract; and

WHEREAS, the actions of Philippine Airlines have set the dangerous precedent that Philippine companies can violate both collective bargaining agreements and Philippine law regulating the use of labor contracting; and

WHEREAS, both the International Labor Organization and the US Government have raised questions about the legality of the Philippine government's efforts to support Philippine Airlines; and

WHEREAS, more than a thousand members of PALEA are maintaining a round-the-clock protest camp outside of Philippine Airlines In-Flight Center near the entrance of the Manila International Airport, with 200-300 members securing the camp day and night; and

WHEREAS, despite two violent attempts by hired company goons to break the protest camp, PALEA members continue to occupy the encampment; and

WHEREAS, PALEA and its members have requested the support of the San Francisco Labor Council,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Labor Council will request that every affiliate place their support with PALEA and illegally terminated Philippine Airline workers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, with one voice we ask in support of the affected workforce, that all friends of organized labor and our friends in leadership positions boycott Philippine Airlines until Philippine Airlines reinstates all regular employees and abandons its illegal outsourcing scheme.

Submitted by Mike Casey, Unite Here 2 and unanimously adopted by the San Francisco Labor Council on April 23, 2012.

Respectfully,

Tim Paulson
Executive Director

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