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Resolution for No Labor Money to Supporters of Fast Track/TPP

Whereas, the S.F. Labor Council resolved on 1/27/2014 to call on U.S. Senate and Congress members “to publicly oppose the Trans Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the Fast Track process created to railroad it into law;” and

Whereas, the SFLC resolution said the secretly-negotiated TPP “will force more deregulation, privatization and union-busting,” and promises to “lower wages ... degrade health and safety ... destroy human and labor rights ... override U.S. environmental laws ... lead to the ruination of national health care in Japan, Korea, Australia and New Zealand ... keep drug prices high ... and force participating countries to accept pesticides and GMO products;” and

Whereas, the big business-drafted TPP is much more than a trade bill. It will empower corporations to invalidate local, state or national laws or regulations they don’t like. For example, laws that mandate a Prevailing Wage or “Buy Local”, or Postal Banking, or “Country of Origin Labeling” of meats; or that prohibit Child Labor, or that restrict such harmful practices as fracking and mountaintop removal – these protective laws will all be fair game if Fast Track is approved; and

Whereas, the undemocratic Fast Track mandates an up-or-down vote with no amendments allowed, preventing any real debate. Other agreements enacted under Fast Track – like NAFTA – resulted in more than 1,000,000 jobs lost and 60,000 factories closed, and were a disaster for the working people of Mexico and other countries; and

Whereas, United Food & Commercial Workers International President Marc Perrone, in a March 2015 statement, declared: “At a time when our elected leaders should be focusing on raising wages, creating more opportunity, and addressing income inequality, the TPP would do exactly the opposite. That is why labor unions from across the U.S. are joining together to cut off funding to those who are pushing this harmful agreement.” Perrone announced that the 1.3-million-member UFCW will no longer make any contributions “to federal officeholders who support or refuse to take a position on the TPP and Fast Track....Unless a member of Congress is on the record opposing both, they will no longer be receiving our financial assistance.”

Therefore be it Resolved, that the San Francisco Labor Council urges its affiliates, Bay Area labor councils, California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO and the entire labor movement to refuse to provide any union or PAC funds to any Senator or member of



Congress who supports or “declines to take a position” on Fast Track and the TPP. Unless a member of Congress or Senate is on the record opposing both, they should no longer be receiving labor’s financial assistance. Nor should these politicians receive any endorsement or in-kind assistance, such as phone banking, campaign mailings or precinct walking, from the union movement.

Submitted by David Welsh, NALC 214; Alan Benjamin, OPEIU 3; Allan Fisher, AFT 2121; Galina Gerasimova, AFT 2121; Marcus Holder, ILWU 10; Ann Robertson, CFA; Rodger Scott, AFT 2121 and David Williams, SEIU 1021 and adopted by the Executive Committee of the San Francisco Labor Council on May 4, 2105 and the Delegate Body of the San Francisco Labor Council on May 11, 2015.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Paulson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the left from the start of the name.

Tim Paulson
Executive Director