



## Resolution to Defend Public Employee Unions and Public Services by Marching on the U.S. Supreme Court

**Executive Director**  
Tim Paulson

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Plumbers 38

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Conny Ford  
OPEIU 3

**VP for Political Activities**  
Alisa Messer  
AFT 2121

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OPEIU 3

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IAM 1414

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SEIU 1021

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UESF

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Plumbers 38

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CARA

**Trustees**  
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David Williams, SEIU 1021  
Claire Zvanski, IFPTE 21

Whereas: Public sector unions have been in the forefront of defending education and other vital public services from cutbacks and privatization; and

Whereas: Rightwing think tanks and state and federal politicians, bankrolled by corporations and billionaires who stand to benefit from workers' inability to defend themselves, are attacking public and private sector unions; and

Whereas: In the first half of 2016, the U.S. Supreme Court will decide *Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association*, a case brought by a dissident teacher and rightwing legal foundations that seeks to impose open shops on public unions, thereby encouraging freeloaders and severely weakening the dues base necessary to provide services; and

Whereas: The severity of the threat is underlined by the fact that Wisconsin AFSCME's membership declined by 64% after Governor Scott Walker stripped public-sector unions of their bargaining rights and a year later imposed "right to work" laws that stopped all unions, public and private, from requiring membership or payments to sustain the union; and

Whereas: Union members organized to fight are the real power that can stop the assaults on working people's livelihoods

Be it therefore resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council use political action funds to mobilize members and friends to oppose all manifestations of "right to work," and;

Be it further resolved that that the San Francisco Labor Council urge the AFL-CIO to organize massive marches in Washington D.C. and on the west coast to defend public services and to call on the Supreme Court to rule against the plaintiffs in *Friedrichs v. CTA* and;

Be it finally resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council use its ties to other unions, labor councils, labor federations and to those organizations served by union members, to build a united front to educate and apply pressure to counter the threat of right to work laws nationwide.

Submitted by Allan Fisher, AFT 2121; Brenda Barros, SEIU 1021; and Bob Price, AFT 2121; Rodger Scott, AFT 2121; Dave Welsh, NALC 214; Ann Roberson, CFA and adopted by the San Francisco Labor Council on December 14, 2015.

Respectfully,

Tim Paulson  
Executive Director

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