



**Educate. Empower.**

### Resolution in Support of Farm workers in North Carolina

Whereas, the state of North Carolina and growers recently launched a series of attacks on farm workers and their union, the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), AFL-CIO, the only farmworker union in the state, starting with a new Farm Bill S615 in the state legislature; and

Whereas, the bill would remove payroll dues deduction, as well as make it harder for farmworkers to win "union agreements that include wage increases, job security, benefits and improved working conditions," said a FLOC statement. The union, which represents over 10,000 farmworkers in North and South Carolina and Ohio, believes the bill is "in retaliation for a series of worker lawsuits...seeking to end wage theft, intimidation and retaliation across eastern North Carolina"; and

Whereas, according to FLOC, farmworkers "are excluded from the National Labor Relations Act (and) face exceptions in the minimum wage, child labor and workers compensation laws. Farmworkers are covered by the state's so-called 'Right to Work' law...and were the victims of the 'Agricultural Right to Work' law, passed in 2013" in response to FLOC's tobacco organizing campaign; and

Whereas, "politicians that are also growers shouldn't pass self-serving laws simply because they don't want their workers to unionize," said FLOC president Baldemar Velasquez. "With the continuation of Jim Crow-era laws that aim to stop a now almost entirely Latino workforce from organizing, this is an affront to freedom of association and smacks of racism."

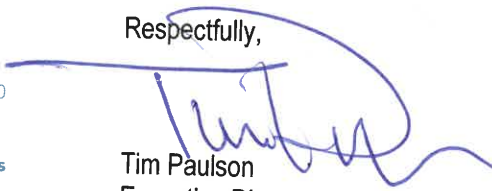
Whereas, labor and community solidarity is greatly needed. In the words of Saladin Muhammad, of Black Workers for Justice and the Southern Workers Assembly, "this must become a national battlefield for all workers, organized, unorganized and unemployed in our communities."

Therefore be it resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council email North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper urging him to veto the Farm Bill S615, with a copy to the Farm Labor Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, as part of supporting labor's "national battlefield" to organize the South and regain the power of labor everywhere in this country; and

Be it finally resolved, that the Council email this resolution to its affiliates, area Labor Councils, the California Labor Federation, Change to Win, and to the AFL-CIO, urging them to do the same.

Submitted by David Welsh, NALC 214, and adopted by the San Francisco Labor Council on July 10, 2017.

Respectfully,

  
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Executive Director

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