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SAN FRANCISCO LABOR COUNCIL

Resolution in Support of a $15 Minimum Wage in San Francisco

Whereas, inequalities continue to grow with the top 1% now taking 95 percent of all new income (whereas in the Bush era they took 65 percent and in the Clinton era they took 45 percent); and

Whereas, the cost of living in San Francisco is one of the highest in the nation; and

Whereas, the San Francisco minimum wage of $10.74, which takes effect in January, 2014, is insufficient for a family to attain a decent standard of living in a city as expensive as San Francisco; and

Whereas, in California the lowest-income families pay the highest rate of state and local taxes while the richest 1 percent pay the lowest rate (California Budget Project); and

Whereas, the unions in the Seattle area recently campaigned for a ballot initiative mandating a $15 per hour minimum wage in a community outside Seattle, and the voters passed the proposition; and

Whereas, according to The New York Times, these unions view their success "as a potential model for raising wages and mobilizing workers in other parts of the country;" and

Whereas, the AFL-CIO has referred to the SeaTac action as a "victory" and reported approvingly that, "Now working family activists in Washington State are hoping to ride the success of the SeaTac vote to Seattle and they've found support from the mayor and the majority of City Council members";

Therefore be it Resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council go on record in support of a $15 per hour minimum wage in San Francisco; and

Be it Further Resolved the San Francisco Labor Council will oppose any minimum wage law that includes "tip credit"; and

Be it Further Resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council encourage its member unions to pass in their locals resolutions supporting a $15 per hour minimum wage in San Francisco; and

Be it Finally resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council help organize a broad-based coalition of unions and community allies to spearhead a campaign to bring the $15 minimum wage to San Francisco.

Submitted by Ann Robertson, CFA; Alan Benjamin, OPEIU 3; Allan Fisher, AFT 2121; Rodger Scott, AFT 2121; Linda Ray, SEIU 1021; Kathy Setian, IFPTE 20; Carl Finamore, IAM Local 1781; Tom Lacey, OPEIU 3; and Francesca Rosa, SEIU 1021 and adopted unanimously by the San Francisco Labor Council on January 13,. 2014.

Respectfully,

Tim Paulson
Executive Director

OPEIU 3 AFL-CIO 11

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