Resolution to Support Rally Demanding Freedom of Unjustly Jailed Trade Unionists in the Republic of Korea (South Korea)

Whereas, the former President Park Geun-hye and her government have been impeached for corruption and violating the democratic, human and labor rights of the Korean people; and

Whereas, she has been jailed along with other members of her regime for corruption; and

Whereas her former government jailed many trade union leaders and activists without due process; and

Whereas, the government has sought to privatize Korea Rail and other public services and have passed laws allowing company unions to be established as well as deregulation of labor; and

Whereas, teachers and other public service workers have been prevented from joining unions and supporting public services; and

Whereas, these measures have brought high levels of temporary work, deregulation and health and safety problems including the sinking of the Sewol Ferry that caused the deaths of more than 300 people, mostly children; and

Whereas, the government has also sought to increase militarization of the country, including the installation of the US Thaad missiles, which are opposed by a majority of the people of Korea as well as the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions KCTU; and

Whereas, a new leader will be elected this month in the Republic of Korea (South Korea),

Therefore be it resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council calls for the release of all unjustly jailed trade unionists and political prisoners in the Republic of Korea (South Korea) and an end to the anti-labor regulations and attacks on the right of public teachers and other public workers to organize, and this Council endorses a press conference and rally on Friday, May 12, at 12:00 noon at the San Francisco Republic of Korea (South Korea) Consulate at 3500 Clay St. and will send a letter to the newly elected leader of the Republic of Korea (South Korea) calling for a release of all the unjustly jailed trade unionists.


Respectfully,

Tim Paulson
Executive Director

OPEIU 29 AFL-CIO 11