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Resolution to Endorse and Promote the December 2-3, 2017, Binational Conference to Cancel NAFTA, Halt the Wall of Shame/ Not One More Deportation, and Support Workers' Rights and Struggles in Mexico, the United States and Canada

Whereas, on August 14, 2017, the Delegates Assembly of the San Francisco Labor Council (AFL-CIO) adopted unanimously a resolution titled, "Cancel NAFTA! Tear Down the Wall of Shame / Not One More Deportation! Support Workers' Rights and Struggles in Mexico, the United States, and Canada!;" and

Whereas, the San Francisco Labor Council resolution recounted the countless ways that NAFTA is promoting privatizations and the destruction of jobs, communities and the environment on both sides of the border for the sole benefit of the U.S.-owned transnational corporations; and

Whereas, a September 2 *Reuters Business News Dispatch*, titled, "NAFTA Negotiators Seek to Enshrine Mexico's Energy Reforms", revealed the real content of the NAFTA renegotiations, highlighting the wholesale assault on Mexico's State-owned oil corporation PEMEX, which is responsible for more than 40% of Mexico's GDP. The Reuters Dispatch stated, in part: "*U.S., Canadian and Mexican negotiators are zeroing in on ways to enshrine Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto's sweeping energy reforms into a modernized North American Free Trade Agreement, Mexico's chief negotiator said on Saturday [Sept. 2]. When NAFTA was enacted in 1994, Mexico's energy sector was closed and Peña Nieto's reforms ended a decades-long monopoly for national oil company Pemex [PEMX.UL] and ensured competitive oil auctions. Incorporating them into NAFTA would help shield them from any future governments that may want to reverse them.*" and

Whereas, the August 14 San Francisco Labor Council resolution affirmed that, "*Repealing NAFTA is the necessary first step, the very pre-condition, to opening new negotiations — with the full input of trade unions, environmental groups, and other community organizations in all three signatory countries — that could lead to a trade deal that actually benefits working people in all three countries*"; and

Whereas, the August 14 San Francisco Labor Council resolution concluded by calling upon "*all its affiliates, all statewide labor councils and the AFL-CIO, along with all of labor's community partners, to support this call and to urge solidarity actions around the above-stated demands on August 16, 2017, the day that the Trump administration has called for the talks on NAFTA renegotiation to begin in Washington*"; and

Whereas, the August 16 actions were the first effort in a binational campaign to highlight the need to stop NAFTA and build cross-border workers' solidarity, the next step of which is the Binational Conference around these very same demands to be held at CSU Dominguez Hills and at the United Steelworkers Hall in Carson, California, on December 2-3, 2017; and

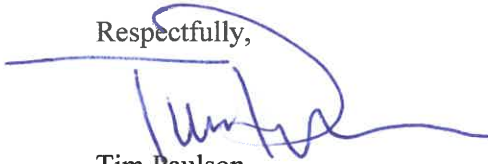


Whereas the call for the December 2-3 Binational Conference was launched by 100 leading unionists in Mexico and the United States, and has been endorsed by various labor councils and unions in both countries, including the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC, AFL-CIO), the Electrical Workers Union of Mexico (SME), the National Telephone Workers of Mexico, and the National Union of Farm Workers of Mexico (SINDJA),

Therefore be it Resolved, that the San Francisco Labor Council endorses the December 2-3, 2017, Binational Conference and will promote it among its affiliates and community partners.

Submitted by Alan Benjamin, OPEIU Local 29; Olga Miranda, SEIU 87; Rudy Gonzalez, IBT 856; Conny Ford, OPEIU 29; and Natalie Naylor, OPEIU 29, and unanimously adopted by the San Francisco Labor Council on November 13, 2017.

Respectfully,



Tim Paulson
Executive Director

OPEIU 29 AFL-CIO 11