

Proposed Resolution No. 1

Submitted by: Bob Losi, Legislative and Political Director

Steve Brown, Local 321

Trade and Globalization

WHEREAS, both the American and world economies in recent decades have experienced rapidly increasing inequality and the concentration of wealth in the hands of a select few; and

WHEREAS, such wide gaps in wealth and resources pose a threat to the world order and basic human rights; and

WHEREAS, the free market system as it stands enables corporations and investors to pit workers in different countries against each other; and

WHEREAS, the lack of regulation has rendered American workers pawns in the game of corporate subsidies, tax breaks, and manipulation of fair wages by some foreign governments; and

WHEREAS, corporations act in their own interest, pursuing cheap labor devoid of benefits and blatantly violating collective bargaining agreements negotiated with their unionized American employees; and

WHEREAS, international corporations that traditionally treat their employees and their rights with respect do not honor this practice on American soil, further enabled by an utter lack of regulation; and

WHEREAS, the right wing of the American political spectrum continues to suppress the power of organized labor by encouraging practices such as outsourcing and privatization of public services; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) would only enable violators of labor rights to continue their practices without establishing safeguards

for workers in these countries and without shielding American workers from unfair competition;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the NPMHU will continue to advocate for international solidarity among workers and their unions to achieve social and economic justice, as well as fair labor practices around the world; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NPMHU should join with existing local, state, and national organizations, including the AFL-CIO and the Laborers International Union of North America, in their the fight against the TPP; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NPMHU will fight for all trade agreements to include and enforce fair labor standards, most notably including the right to organize and bargain collectively.