

Proposed Resolution No. 3

Submitted by: Bob Losi, Legislative and Political Director

### **Raise the Minimum Wage**

WHEREAS, the federal minimum wage has remained at \$7.25 per hour while the cost of living has continued to climb; and

WHEREAS, millions of American workers earn the minimum wage, ensnaring themselves and their families in a crippling cycle of poverty, as well as exposing them to risk factors including poor nutrition and health, unsafe or inadequate housing, and limited access to medical care; and

WHEREAS, studies show that increasing the minimum wage has virtually no negative effect on the employment of minimum wage workers or the availability of their jobs; and

WHEREAS, studies also show that increasing the minimum wage will cause an increase in employment, because higher wages will result in a surge in consumer spending, giving the U.S. economy a much-needed boost; and

WHEREAS, opinion polls show that an overwhelming majority of Americans support increasing the minimum wage to \$15.00 per hour by 2020; and

WHEREAS, localities and states such as Seattle, New York, California, and the District of Columbia all have passed measures that will raise the minimum wage to \$15.00 over time; and

WHEREAS, proposals to implement such measures are being discussed in legislatures across the country;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the NPMHU supports an increase in the federal minimum wage to at least \$15.00 per hour by 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NPMHU strongly encourages its affiliates to advocate for local, state, and federal legislation that ensures a wage increase commensurate with the rise in the cost of living.