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Resolution to Establish an Economic Crisis Committee

Whereas, none of this Council's recommendations of Sept. 22, 2008 have been implemented, and

Whereas, the Bush Administration/Paulson bailouts have not forced the banks to lend money or restricted the use of the tax dollar bailout; and

Whereas, Naomi Klein reports that, "The more details emerge, the clearer it becomes that Washington's handling of the Wall Street bailout is not merely incompetent. It is borderline criminal." And Congressman Barney Frank says, "The money is going to bonuses. It is going to shareholders. And it is not going to lending. This violates the (bailout) act;" and

Whereas, the most recent, but not the only, anti-worker impact of the financial crisis is the attempt to bust the United Auto Workers Union as a remedy for the failures of the big three auto companies, as if the auto workers were at fault for the business decisions and design decisions of the Wall St. owners of the auto industry, as if the cost of health care was the cause of poor sales of lousy designs of gas guzzling cars and trucks, and the impacts of a globalized automobile industry; and

Whereas, the Republicans and their media servants cry for dismantling UAW contracts and benefits, it is clear that universal single payer expansion of Medicare for All Americans will relieve employers of being the main supplier of health care, while enabling workers to have portable universal access to care; and

Whereas, after the \$290 billion that has been given away to the bankers, Secretary of Treasury Paulson has reportedly earmarked \$410 billion for the new President to administer; and

Whereas, John Sweeney has stated that, "[W]orking people need an economic recovery package that will jump-start the economy and put America back to work. ... We need an immediate investment plan to create jobs by rebuilding our crumbling roads and schools and bridges;" and

Whereas, while the banking and globalizing economic forces are gathering around the new administration to support Wall Street, the AFL-CIO has called for action to aid and benefit Main Street; and

Whereas, the current situation requires thoughtful and coordinated action by labor if we are to achieve real support for Main Street and the working class; and

Whereas, the new president cannot move this mountain of embedded corruption and

greed without overwhelming pressure from those of us who elected him, and

Therefore be it Resolved that the SFLC shall establish an Economic Crisis Committee to evaluate and recommend to the Council an action program of specific remedies and policies which will be conveyed to the State Federation of Labor, the AFL-CIO and CTW regarding the ongoing theft of tax payer dollars and the continuing decline of workers' well-being to be effectively communicated to President-elect Obama; and

Be it Finally Resolved that this Economic Crisis Committee shall provide a preliminary report to the Council as soon as possible or by the time of the first 2009 meeting of the delegates on January 12, 2009, in order to be prepared to powerfully communicate our concerns and perspective to the new incoming President Barack Obama.

Submitted by Brothers Denis Mosgofian, GCC-IBT 4N; Alan Benjamin, OPEIU 3; and Tom Edminster, UESF (organizations for identification) and adopted by the San Francisco Labor Council on November 24, 2008

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Paulson", with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

Tim Paulson
Executive Director

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