RESOLUTION ON IMMIGRATION REFORM

WHEREAS: nearly one quarter of the population in the USA is foreign born or the child of someone who is foreign born, and

WHEREAS: the current immigration system is plagued by backlogs and delays with hundreds of thousands of applications on pending and backlogged, and

WHEREAS: the undeniable fact is that there is a vast and growing underground economy in our country, comprising vulnerable, and often exploited immigrant workers, and

WHEREAS: political expediency has resulted in the passage of immigration laws that are often short-sighted and harsh, unduly targeting immigrants and often leading to racial profiling

WHEREAS: AFT Washington members regularly serve and support immigrant students, and therefore have a professional interest in the passage of immigration reform legislation, and

WHEREAS: AFT Washington, as a labor union, is an organization committed to working to forge ties of solidarity across boundaries and to working for a more just society, therefore be it

RESOLVED: that AFT Washington supports federal comprehensive immigration reform – consisting of provisions that

▪ Enhance national security and safety with a sensible enforcement policy
▪ Protect fundamental rights for all
▪ Create a rational and humane approach to the undocumented population
▪ Keep families together in the USA and reduce backlogs
▪ Ensure future worker flows with full rights and protections
▪ Allocate sufficient visas to close unlawful migration channels
▪ Promote immigrant integration

and be it further

RESOLVED: that AFT Washington urges its affiliated locals and its members to contact their members of congress to ask them to support such reform, and be it finally

RESOLVED: that AFT Washington urges our international, AFT, also to support comprehensive immigration reform consisting of the same provisions outlined above.

Presented to convention by the AFT Washington Human Rights Committee