

**Resolution Title:** Health Care and Secure Retirement Are a Right  
**Submitted by:** Professional Staff Congress/CUNY

*“Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane.”*  
*--Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Whereas, health care and a secure retirement—which includes health care in retirement—are basic human rights; all people, regardless of nationality or citizenship, should be entitled to health; and

Whereas, health care and a secure pension for working people are a form of deferred wages—not a gift or a bonus; and

Whereas, NYSUT has played a leading role in securing good retirement benefits for its members and in advocating for fair health care; and

Whereas, teachers, professors, health care workers and others in the public sector, who sacrifice the opportunity to earn high salaries because they believe in the mission of public service, are entitled to expect in return fair health care benefits and a secure retirement; and

Whereas, the universal right to health care has still not been recognized in the United States, almost uniquely among industrialized countries; and

Whereas, the past decade has seen an escalating assault on both pensions and health care for employees, and there are indications that this assault may soon be attempted with public employees in New York State; and

Whereas, the attempts to reduce or eliminate employee health care and pensions is straight out of the neo-liberal playbook—part of the conscious agenda to redistribute wealth from the middle class to an ever-smaller sector of the ownership class; therefore be it

Resolved, that in the context of this economic and political agenda, NYSUT reinvigorate its advocacy to defend and improve employee health care and pensions for its members not shifting the cost onto working people, and that NYSUT reaffirm its position that cuts to pensions and health care will not be tolerated.

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I hereby certify that the above resolution was approved for submission to the 2007 NYSUT Representative Assembly by the:

Delegate Assembly

at a meeting held on

December 21, 2006

Signed:



(President)

Local 2334

NYSUT Local or Retiree Council #

Professional Staff Congress

Local or Retiree Council Name

Local 2334

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