

Solidarity with West Coast Longshore Workers (ILWU) Against Employers' Attempt to Punish Them for Their Work Stoppage in Support of Labor Rights in Wisconsin

WHEREAS, International Longshore and Warehouse Union Local 10 shut down the Port of Oakland for 24 hours on April 4, to express solidarity with the struggle to defend labor rights in Wisconsin and in remembrance of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. while he was supporting the Memphis sanitation workers' strike; and

WHEREAS, the employers' Pacific Maritime Association is now outrageously suing ILWU Local 10 and its president, Richard Mead, and

WHEREAS, like many others in the labor movement, our union has proclaimed that "We Are All Wisconsin," as the struggle there is of vital concern to all defenders of labor rights; and

WHEREAS, the ILWU has a long record of workers' solidarity actions, notably the May Day 2008 strike against the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, which shut all 29 West Coast ports and was hailed by our union, 11 of whose campus chapters held events in support of the historic longshore action; and

WHEREAS, the slogan "an injury to one is an injury to all" applies very directly to this situation; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Professional Staff Congress expresses its solidarity with ILWU Local 10 and calls for the employers' suit against the union to be dropped immediately; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we encourage other New York area unions to issue statements of their own in defense of the Longshore workers.

Proposed by Sándor John, Hunter College

April 28, 2011

Labor donated