

SEIU Healthcare Wisconsin Resolution on Presidential Endorsement

WHEREAS, the 2.1 million members united in the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) are wholly committed to a bold, pro-worker agenda that create good jobs now, makes the rich and large corporations pay their fair share of taxes, prevents devastating cuts to Medicare, Medicaid and other programs that serve the common good, make comprehensive immigration reform a reality and promotes laws and rules that will lead to a more fair and just society;

WHEREAS, we share a vision of an America with a strong, vibrant middle class, where working people have good jobs and can join together in unions to create a better future for their families, where all children can have a better life than the generation before them, and where every worker can retire with dignity and respect;

WHEREAS, that vision is severely at risk, as our nation is in the midst of the worst unemployment since the Great Depression, devastating budget shortfalls in our cities and states, an ongoing decline in union representation and erosion of the middle class, stagnating wages and rising poverty, and an economy that has produced unprecedented income inequality that has disproportionately affected people of color;

WHEREAS, anti-government extremists are attempting to dismantle our public services, healthcare system, schools, and social safety net a time when America has never needed them more, while anti-worker politicians have escalated the assault on workers' rights, collective bargaining, the minimum wage, and other labor protections;

WHEREAS, President Obama, who was elected in 2008 in the spirit of hope and with the promise of change, remains the best candidate through which we can advance this important pro-worker agenda. He successfully signed into law the historic Affordable Care Act, Wall Street Reform, the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, made higher education more accessible to low- and middle- income students, and increased resources for state and local government quality public services through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – all in the face of unrelenting opposition for right-wing extremists in Congress;

WHEREAS, President Obama is the candidate most committed to leading the charge to put America back to work, to rebuild our roads and bridges and crumbling infrastructure, to rehire our teachers and our first responders, to put the needs of working and middle-class Americans ahead of the interests of big businesses and billionaires, and to require corporations and the rich to pay their fair share of taxes;

WHEREAS, President Obama is committed to protecting Medicare and Medicaid, Social Security, and quality public services, has denounced the dishonest and destructive attempts to strip collective bargaining rights away from workers, and has pledged to create a comprehensive immigration system that serves the interests of workers, employers, and our nation as a whole;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT, now more than ever, as part of a comprehensive, pro-worker agenda and a new vision for America, SEIU should support the President's re-election and continue to urge him to support policies to restore the middle class and to get our country back to work. **Let it be resolved that SEIU Healthcare Wisconsin calls on SEIU's International Executive Board to endorse President Obama for President in 2012.**