

RESOLUTION #2

Subject: OSHA Pandemic Enforceable Standard
Submitted by: Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO Executive Council
Referred to: Resolutions Committee

Whereas: The current OSHA leadership at the state and federal level is failing workers by not creating a pandemic standard to enforce the CDC workplace guidelines and protect workers from the COVID-19 virus; and

Whereas: Employers have an obligation to maintain safe workplaces and should follow the precautionary principle, which means they should not wait until they know with absolute certainty before taking action to protect the health of their workers. Some workers have previously been exposed to toxic substances on the job that led to chronic illnesses and places these workers at increased risk for severe symptoms associated with the coronavirus; and

Whereas: All workers should be provided the appropriate resources, training, equipment, and protocols to be protected from the virus and avoid infecting other people. Since there is no established safe exposure limit to the virus, the goal should be to eliminate exposure to the greatest extent possible; and

Whereas: When workers who respond to, care for, or treat the health care needs of the public in the course of our employment become exposed to or infected with the virus, any exposure or infection should be presumed to be an on-the-job injury or illness suffered in the course of our employment; and

Whereas: Federal and state funding must be targeted to worker safety and health training on infectious disease control; adequate personal protective equipment and fitting; emergency response and preparedness; and other workplace-specific training that equips our working people with the tools we need during this crisis and for the future; and **AND NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

Resolved: The Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, its affiliated local unions and Area Labor Federations calls upon Iowa's Governor to enact a pandemic standard that can enforce CDC guidelines and for Iowa's legislature to fund OSHA to the extent of protecting workers from all dangers including the spread of the COVID-19 virus



USW Local 105 – President



USW Local 105 – Recording Secretary