

## Resolutions adopted by MLKCLC in 2000

Supporting life-saving services on the Seattle Waterfront (#1) - 3/1/00  
Supporting domestic partnership benefits for state employees - 4/19/00  
Regarding Seattle's DWLS Impoundment Law - 4/19/00  
Regarding Interim Executive Secretary Selection Process - 4/19/00  
Supporting the City's developer incentive programs to promote requirements that improve the quality of jobs - 6/7/00  
Opposing the establishment of a McDonald's in Seattle's International District - 6/21/00  
Opposing funding cuts at King County DSHS Community Service Offices - 7/19/00  
Supporting workers at the Kent Starbucks roasting plant - 8/16/00  
Commending police officers who 'protect and serve' - 8/16/00  
Opposing making high school transcripts available to employers - 8/16/00  
Supporting the August 21st rally calling for non-discrimination in the Boy Scouts of America - 8/16/00  
Supporting life-saving services on the Seattle Waterfront (#2) - 9/6/00  
Supporting Seattle City Council legislation enhancing renters' rights - 12/6/00  
Supporting workforce and artist housing in the Tashiro Kaplan Building - 12/6/00

### **Resolution supporting life-saving services on the Seattle Waterfront - Adopted 3/1/00**

WHEREAS the Seattle Fire Department responded to a union member submerged under a dock in 10 minutes, but did not have SCUBA gear and the Seattle Police Dive Team took 33 minutes to respond from Lake Union; and  
WHEREAS the Seattle Fire Department's Tactical Response Team has trained divers at Station 14 within minutes of the Seattle waterfront; and  
WHEREAS Mayor Paul Schell has stated publicly that anyone in the water for three minutes or more will not survive; and  
WHEREAS all workers on the waterfront deserve the highest level of protection from drowning regardless of the statistics used by the Mayor to justify removing life-saving equipment from the Fire Department; and  
WHEREAS we believe the Firefighters Union and the Police Guild will agree to cooperate with each other concerning jurisdiction of the work; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the King County Labor Council request that Mayor Paul Schell allow the Seattle Fire Department to maintain a dive team whose function includes rescue of drowning victims around the Seattle waterfront; and be it further

RESOLVED that the King County Labor Council endorses the mobilization of interested union members for a public rally in remembrance of those who have lost their lives while working on the waterfront and a demonstration for the immediate return of SCUBA equipment to the Firefighters at Station 14; and be it finally

RESOLVED that the King County Labor Council publicly thank the Firefighters at Station 14 who have many times risked their own safety to save workers on the Seattle waterfront.

**Resolution supporting domestic partnership benefits for state employees - Adopted 4/19/00**

WHEREAS this week's activities are critical in whether the Washington State Public Employee Benefits Board will pass domestic partnership benefits for state employees at its scheduled meeting on May 23rd; and

WHEREAS it is very important that Governor Locke advocate for funding domestic partnership benefits in budget negotiations this week; and

WHEREAS the Governor has not yet taken a public position in support of domestic partnership benefits for state employees; and

WHEREAS the Washington State Federation of Employees, AFSCME and its Gay & Lesbian Employees Task Force is leading a campaign for domestic partnership benefits; and

WHEREAS this campaign is supported by the Pride at Work/Out Front Labor Coalition and several unions, labor leaders and activists; and

WHEREAS providing workplace benefits, such as health insurance, pension and family medical leave, only to married employees' spouses and denying these benefits to employees' domestic partners violates the concept of "equal pay for equal work;" and

WHEREAS KCLC strongly supports the concept of non-discrimination in the workplace and has supported domestic partnership as recently as last fall in legislation before the Seattle City Council; be it therefore

RESOLVED that KCLC supports the passage and funding of domestic partnership benefits for state employees, and strongly encourages the state to cover both opposite-sex domestic partners as well as same-sex domestic partners, though a phasing-in for same-sex partner coverage first may be acceptable if funding restrictions allow for no other option; and be it further

RESOLVED that KCLC contact the Governor this week regarding the passage of this resolution, fax a letter to the Washington State Public Employee Benefit

Board within the month regarding the passage of this resolution, and fax press releases to Seattle media on this matter within the week.

**Resolution regarding Seattle's DWLS Impoundment Law - Adopted 4/19/00**

WHEREAS most workers in our County need a car to access family wage jobs with union benefits — especially in the construction industry; and WHEREAS the lack of transportation is a barrier for diverse and low-income applicants to State Apprenticeship Council apprentice training leading to job skills with union wages; and

WHEREAS the city of Seattle's 1999 Driving While License Suspended Impoundment Law was intended to get dangerous drivers off the road but instead has resulted in seizing cars from low income workers whose only crime is their inability to pay off their parking, insurance and minor traffic tickets; and

WHEREAS African-American workers are six times as likely as white workers to have their cars impounded — a condition that is in part caused by the police practice of racial profiling; and

WHEREAS few relicensing programs exist to help low-income workers enter into time payments or other arrangements on their outstanding tickets; and

WHEREAS Washington State requires drivers to have liability insurance but does not offer any low cost insurance for low-income drivers; be it therefore RESOLVED that KCLC go on record supporting the amendment proposed by Councilmembers Licata and McIver to the city of Seattle's DWLS Impoundment Law. This amendment would limit impoundments to persons whose licenses were suspended or revoked due to unsafe or dangerous driving, such as reckless driving, DUI, or hit and run; and be it further RESOLVED that KCLC support the amendment by scheduling a grassroots lobbying meeting with Councilmember Heidi Wills, who has not yet indicated her support for the amendment, and encouraging KCLC affiliates — especially building trades members — to take action supporting the amendment and speaking out on behalf of low-income workers.

**Resolution regarding Interim Executive Secretary Selection Process - Adopted 4/19/00**

WHEREAS we fully support the Executive Board appointment process mandated by the KCLC bylaws; and

WHEREAS filling the vacant Executive Secretary leadership position is critical to the continued growth and vitality of the county's labor movement; and

WHEREAS we believe that there are sound trade union principles that we know the Executive Board will be considering in their deliberation of the process for appointment of this vacancy; be it therefore RESOLVED that the KCLC Executive Board endeavor to promote an open process for candidate debate and consideration, including a forum open to all KCLC delegates and an interview process by the Executive Board.

**Resolution supporting the use of the City's developer incentive programs to promote requirements that improve the quality of jobs - Adopted 6/7/00**

WHEREAS many workers in service and retail jobs in downtown Seattle make less than \$10 per hour working in jobs that are part time, provide no health benefits, are not unionized and fail to provide a living wage for them and their families; and

WHEREAS the City of Seattle, through its various taxpayer-financed housing and developer incentive programs can provide only a fraction of the amount needed to fund housing for the low-wage jobs associated with downtown office and hotel development; and

WHEREAS increasing union density leads to increasing wages and benefits for workers, can enable them to afford non-subsidized housing and is a necessary element of any anti-poverty program; and

WHEREAS an advisory committee was formed to consider changes to the City's incentive programs that address the housing and social impacts of commercial downtown development and the Labor Council requested but was declined committee membership; and

WHEREAS the advisory committee's report does not address improving the quality of jobs in hotels and other developments in order to lessen the need for affordable housing subsidies; and

WHEREAS the Seattle City Council is scheduled to review and adopt the advisory committee's report as city policy; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the King County Labor Council urges the Mayor and the City Council to use the City's developer incentive programs to promote requirements that improve the quality of jobs; and be it further

RESOLVED that the King County Labor Council urges the Mayor and the City Council to require downtown developers to assess the social impacts of their projects and to contribute resources for affordable housing equal to the demand created by low-wage jobs associated with their developments, and that any discounts should be based only on other commitments by the developer/operator to provide quality jobs and to be a responsible employer.

**Resolution opposing the establishment of a McDonald's in Seattle's International District - Adopted 6/21/00**

WHEREAS, McDonald's violates child labor laws worldwide and is hostile to union organizing; and

WHEREAS, McDonald's will unfairly compete with small businesses and undersell restaurants while helping to gentrify the International District by paying expensive rent, setting the standard of high rent that only wealthy businesses can afford and stripping away opportunities for small businesses to establish themselves, especially among immigrant families; and

WHEREAS, McDonald's will take away opportunities for future small businesses to establish themselves and offer jobs by businesses invested in the community; and

WHEREAS, McDonald's does not belong in an Asian American historical district based on its product or the nature of its business because it does not reflect the history or culture of the Chinatown International District; and

WHEREAS, a McDonald's would insult the history of the International district with its exploitative labor practices as in its history, the International District housed many exploited Asian cannery workers who fought for unions in their line of work, like Carlos Bulosan; and

WHEREAS, McDonald's would pave the way for other multinational companies to establish themselves in the International District, and the neighborhood will lose all aspects of its identity and character; be it therefore RESOLVED, that the King County Labor Council adamantly opposes the establishment of McDonald's in the Chinatown International District at 501 S. Jackson St. or any other location in the International District.

**Resolution opposing funding cuts at King County DSHS Community Service Offices - Adopted 7/19/00**

WHEREAS, King County DSHS Community Service Offices are facing staffing cuts of 99 full-time equivalents (FTEs); and

WHEREAS, this staffing cut results from a flawed DSHS allocation process and is being presided over by a management corps which grew by 312 positions from July 1, 1999 to December 10, 1999; and

WHEREAS, these staffing cuts will result in a 20% front line staffing cut in offices like the Belltown Community Service Office in Seattle which serves one of the largest caseloads of homeless, mentally ill, aged and disabled populations in the state; and

WHEREAS, the Belltown CSO has a Native American Outreach program which has been honored by the state and which is now being eliminated by these cuts in staffing; and

WHEREAS, the Belltown CSO has an employment program for homeless adults which is a national model called the PACE program which is now being eliminated due to these cuts in staffing; and

WHEREAS, the Belltown CSO originated the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) facilitation program which saves the state millions of dollars annually and is now facing a 50% cut due to these cuts in staffing; and

WHEREAS, all of these cuts will damage all Community Service Offices in the state by impacting their ability to serve the aged and the disabled; and

WHEREAS, these cuts seem to be part of a management plan to eliminate all social services in the Community Services Offices on a piecemeal basis; and

WHEREAS, legislative leaders from the 36<sup>th</sup> and 43<sup>rd</sup> districts have stated that these cuts and the damage that will result to vulnerable populations were not the intent of the legislature; and

WHEREAS, community organizations like the Washington Association of Churches, Columbia Legal Services, Seattle Displacement Coalition, Downtown Human Services Council, Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle, Chief Seattle Club, Seattle Indian Health Board, United Indians of All Tribes, and others have all opposed these cuts; and

WHEREAS, DSHS Administration could be making other cuts which would not cripple the Community Service Offices' abilities to provide vital social services to the public; be it therefore

RESOLVED, that the King County Labor Council go on record as opposing these cuts; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the King County Labor Council demands that DSHS management present to the Washington Federation of State Employees their plan for each local Community Service Office to maintain the current programs and services at their present levels.

**Resolution supporting workers at the Kent Starbucks roasting plant -  
Adopted 8/16/00**

WHEREAS Starbucks maintenance mechanics and technicians in Kent, Washington organized into the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 286 in November 1999 in order to win a voice on the job and decent pay and benefits; and

WHEREAS Starbucks spends millions advertising itself as a community and worker friendly company, but its real agenda has been to expand globally by keeping workers without collective bargaining rights and with inferior benefits; and

WHEREAS Starbucks hired out of town attorneys from Akin, Gump, a firm known for union-busting in the entertainment industry, and who handled labor negotiations for the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Theater against Musicians Local 76-493; and

WHEREAS Starbucks has stalled bargaining and concealed documents, has installed a surveillance camera in the lunch room in an attempt to intimidate workers, has threatened union supporters, and has told workers they will lose benefits under a union contract; and

WHEREAS the King County Labor Council has a proud history and tradition of supporting workers fighting for collective bargaining and a voice at work; and

WHEREAS KCLC is committed to the principle that "An injury to one is an injury to all"; be it therefore

RESOLVED that KCLC commits to support Local 286 and its members in a fight for a just contract at Starbucks; and be it further

RESOLVED that KCLC commits to organize for picketing and other demonstrations called by the local in support of winning a first contract at Starbucks; and be it further

RESOLVED that KCLC directs its Mobilizing Committee to work with Local 286 and all interested affiliates in building for a major mobilization action in late September; and be it finally

RESOLVED that KCLC immediately forward this resolution to the Washington State Labor Council and the Washington State Building and Construction Trades Council for adoption at their conventions later this month.

**Resolution commending police officers who 'protect and serve' -  
Adopted 8/16/00**

WHEREAS the Seattle Police Guild has honored Officer Tommie Doran as "Officer of the Month"; and

WHEREAS the president of the Police Guild has been quoted in the press as stating that "nearly every police officer involved in a fatal shooting in the past couple of decades has been honored by the Police Guild as a way for the Guild to recognize and support its members during a time of struggle"; and  
WHEREAS organized labor has historically been a leader in developing and supporting public policies that help working families build safer, stronger communities; and

WHEREAS in keeping with that tradition of community leadership, we believe that our societal tendency toward violence must be rejected and non-violent alternatives must be highlighted; and

WHEREAS it is incumbent upon our public safety personnel to provide the best possible role models; be it therefore

RESOLVED that KCLC, on behalf of the 150,000 members of its 155 affiliated locals, commend those police officers who demonstrated restraint and discipline in attempting to reach a peaceful resolution to the David Walker confrontation; and be it further

RESOLVED that KCLC urge the Seattle City Council to mandate crisis intervention training for all police and security officers, with periodic reviews and public access to any current and future negotiations or data regarding instances of the kind now being discussed in the community; and be it further RESOLVED that KCLC urge the Seattle City Council and the Metropolitan King County Council to examine increased funding for community mental health services so people in need can receive therapeutic services rather than being at risk in the community or criminal justice system; and be it finally RESOLVED that public recognition and commendations be awarded to public safety personnel who find non-violent solutions to difficult confrontations in keeping with the Seattle Police motto: "To protect and to serve."

**Resolution opposing making high school transcripts available to employers - Adopted 8/16/00**

WHEREAS the Partnership for Learning, including the Association of Washington Business and the Chamber of Commerce, has requested union locals to endorse employers being able to request high school transcripts when hiring students or recent graduates; and

WHEREAS employers have used such personal information against workers in the past; be it therefore

RESOLVED that we oppose this discriminatory effort; and be it further

RESOLVED that KCLC send a letter with this resolution to the Partnership for Learning, the Association of Washington Business, and the Chamber of Commerce and that a copy of this letter be sent to the Washington State Labor Council and KCLC affiliates.

**Resolution supporting the August 21st rally calling for non-discrimination in the Boy Scouts of America - Adopted 8/16/00**

WHEREAS the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) national office advocates their policy of prohibiting openly gay youth, adults and families from participating in their organization at any level; and

WHEREAS the King County Labor Council is strongly on record in favor of non-discrimination; and

WHEREAS the Out Front Labor Coalition/Pride at Work, AFL-CIO and Scouting for All are co-sponsoring a rally on Monday, August 21st, the call for non-discrimination within the BSA; and

WHEREAS a number of organizations are endorsing the rally, including Safe Schools Coalition, Hands Off Washington/Equality Washington, American Friends Service Committee, People's Coalition for Justice, Coalition for Enforceable Discrimination Laws, NW Women's Law Center, Fairness Lobby, SEAMEC, Pacific Northwest Reconciling Congregations Network, Seattle Gay

Culture Center, and the Seattle Chapter of Parents, Friends and Family of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG); be it therefore  
RESOLVED that KCLC endorses the rally calling for non-discrimination and issue press releases to local media as soon as possible.

**Resolution supporting life-saving services on the Seattle Waterfront -  
Adopted 9/6/00**

WHEREAS Mayor Paul Schell's corporate concept of "acceptable risk" against having a rescue dive team has once more resulted in another death of a union brother; and

WHEREAS this last accident, one of a number of recent accidents, on the waterfront of the City of Seattle should not, as the Mayor believes, be a cost-saving body recovery operation only; and

WHEREAS the City of Seattle, with its extensive waterfront, needs the capabilities of the Seattle Fire Department's Tactical Response Team with full SCBA in all stations that are first responders to the Seattle waterfront; and

WHEREAS all workers and users of the waterfront deserve the highest level of protection from drowning, regardless of the statistics used by the City to justify removing life-saving equipment from the Fire Department; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the King County Labor Council take a firm position in favor of the recent position of the Mayor to return SCBA Rescue Diving capabilities to the Seattle Fire Department's Tactical Response Team; and be it further

RESOLVED that the King County Labor Council endorse increased funding for the Seattle Fire Department for water rescue capabilities that will be standards to which the rest of the world aspires; and be it finally

RESOLVED that the King County Labor Council publicly thank, on behalf of the Inlandboatmen's Union of the Pacific and all workers of the City of Seattle, the firefighters who have many times risked their own safety to save workers and users of the Seattle waterfront.

**Resolution supporting Seattle City Council legislation enhancing  
renters' rights - Adopted 12/6/00**

WHEREAS the King County Labor Council asserts that workers, communities and tenants are stronger and better when they are organized; and

WHEREAS the Labor Council supports the rights of tenants to organize to better address their housing and political issues; and

WHEREAS retaliation by landlords is a significant barrier to the efforts by tenants to organize themselves to achieve better quality and more affordable housing; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the King County Labor Council supports the legislation proposed by Councilmember Judy Nicastro to enhance protections for renters against landlord retaliation and urges the Seattle City Council to pass the legislation.

**Resolution supporting workforce and artist housing in the Tashiro Kaplan Building - Adopted 12/6/00**

WHEREAS the housing crisis in King County is deepening as housing prices soar and the wages of low-wage workers stagnate; and

WHEREAS King County has the ability to use its powers and resources to address the County's affordable housing problems; and

WHEREAS for the purpose of providing housing for low-wage workers and for artists, the County designated the Tashiro Kaplan Building in Pioneer Square as surplus property; be it therefore

RESOLVED that the King County Labor Council urges the government of King County to fulfill its commitment to use the Tashiro Kaplan Building to address the housing needs of low-wage workers and artists.