

Sample Resolution

**In Commemoration of
the 10-Year Anniversary of the Charleston 5
and in Solidarity with
the “Jobs with Rights Now” campaign in the South**

Whereas, on the night of Jan. 19, 2000, South Carolina law enforcement agencies teamed up to send a military style police force of 600 to attack a picket line of longshoremen at the port of Charleston who were defending their union jobs against Nordana, a Danish shipping firm; and

Whereas, the police brutality against International Longshoremen Association Local 1422, a 98 percent African American local, became a bloody war scene with many workers injured and hospitalized by police, including Local 1422 President Ken Riley; and

Whereas, living up to the ugly legacy of the Old South, the right wing Republican State Attorney General Charles Condon, the former Chairman of the George W. Bush for President campaign in South Carolina, turned reality on its head and charged five longshoremen, four black and one white, with conspiracy to riot felonies; and

Whereas, A global and national solidarity movement to Free the Charleston 5 arose in response and became one of the most significant victories of our time; and

Whereas, Charleston International Longshoremen’s Association Locals, the South Carolina AFL-CIO and the Charleston Central Labor Council are commemorating and celebrating the 10 year Anniversary of this victory on Feb. 25 and 26, 2010 in Charleston, South Carolina; and

Whereas, this event will bring together leaders and activists who guaranteed the victory, including dockworkers from around the world, the West Coast International Longshore and Warehouse Union and the national AFL-CIO; and

Whereas, at this event the South Carolina AFL-CIO, Charleston Central Labor Council and ILA Local 1422 will unveil the “Jobs with Rights Now” campaign that aims to unite labor in the South with all its allies to organize workers into unions and defend their rights on the job to living wages with good benefits including winning support in the South for passage of the Employee Free Choice Act and the AFL-CIO’s Five-Point Plan to create and save jobs; and

Whereas, this campaign will fight the dangerous anti-worker corporate drive that views the South as the weak link where low wages and benefits will increase their profit margin and as a result, similar to Third World nations, the South has become a corporate location of choice; and

Whereas, while high levels of unemployment make new jobs a necessity in the South, new jobs without unions is a road to economic disaster with a clear national impact on the standard of living across the nation;

Therefore Be it resolved, that the _____ extends our congratulations and appreciation to the Charleston 5, the International Longshoremen’s Association Local 1422, the South Carolina AFL-CIO, the Charleston Central Labor Council, other Charleston ILA Locals and all the participants in the Charleston 5 movement on the occasion of the 10-year Anniversary of this historic victory that serves as model for all who seek economic and social justice in our nation;

And, be it further resolved that we extend our solidarity to the “Jobs with Rights Now” campaign to organize and defend workers in the South, an effort that will resonate across America and impact all workers and their families.

Send copies of this resolution to:

**Jobs with Rights Now!
c/o ILA Local 1422
1142 Morrison Drive
Charleston, SC 29403**