

AFT Connecticut Resolution on Climate Change

WHEREAS, climate change threatens the lives and livelihoods of working people in Connecticut, the United States, and the world,

And Whereas, Labor is compelled to take a leading role in addressing this local, national, and global threat,

And Whereas, The Connecticut AFL-CIO has launched the Connecticut Roundtable on Climate and Jobs, an innovative partnership with Connecticut's labor, environmental, and religious groups, which advocates for public policies that address urgent concerns about climate change while creating good-paying jobs right here in our state,

And Whereas, The Roundtable has successfully encouraged the state of Connecticut to establish a new Governor's Council on Climate Change,

And Whereas, The Roundtable has successfully worked with labor, environmental, religious, consumer, and other constituencies to fight for state energy policies that create jobs and protect the climate,

And Whereas, The Labor Network for Sustainability, in collaboration with the Roundtable, released a report laying out a plan to realize our climate protection goals while creating more jobs with lower energy costs than current state plans, that recommends benchmarks on greenhouse gas reductions, transition to renewable energy sources, investments in public transport systems, good, stable jobs in a growing climate protection sector and jobs for skilled workers in the construction trades, all with union representation or a neutral path to organizing, and protection for all workers and communities that may be adversely affected by climate policies,

THEREFORE be it resolved, that AFT Connecticut endorses the ongoing work of the Connecticut Roundtable on Climate and Jobs,

And Therefore be it resolved, that we support the work of the Governor's Council on Climate Change to realize Connecticut's climate protection targets,

And Therefore be it resolved, that we encourage the widest discussion and consideration of the recommendations of the report on climate and jobs of the Labor Network for Sustainability and the Connecticut Roundtable,

And Therefore be it resolved, that we urge the Governor's Council on Climate Change to develop and implement such a detailed jobs plan as part of their comprehensive climate change action plan,

And Therefore be it resolved, that we re-affirm and remind all parties that workers and their families are important stakeholders on the issue of climate change. The Governor's Council on Climate Change must ensure that labor unions are fully represented in climate policy deliberation.