

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

AFSCME 3299 Executive Board Resolution on the 2016 Presidential Election and Our Path Forward



WHEREAS: We live in a world in which the only power that workers truly have is the power of our unity and organization, and our strongest force for progress is the struggles for justice we have engaged, no matter who sits in the White House; and

WHEREAS: The social and economic system in which we live works constantly to sow fear and division against our unity on the basis of things that make us different from each other, like the color of our skin, our gender, who we love, our ability, our country of origin, our religion, the job we do, and our level of education; and

WHEREAS: We hold interests in common that are far greater than our differences, like our need for safety, respect, good schools, a clean and healthy planet, freedom from stress, good and steady nourishment, good health, strong love and community, economic security, time to rest, and the opportunity to contribute; and

WHEREAS: As members of 3299, we come in all political stripes but we are also trade unionists, and believe in unionism that is for everyone. As our constitution states, *“we can’t build a better world or solve problems on the job until more workers understand that together we have the power to make dramatic democratic change. Helping our co-workers organize to use our collective power is the most important task in our union. Building a democratic union where participation and different views are encouraged is an essential part of that process.”*; and

WHEREAS: The Trump presidential campaign and his election have elevated and empowered language, ideas and actions of racism, xenophobia, homophobia and misogyny. In calling for the separation of millions of working immigrant families, the persecution of an entire religion, the sanction of police killings of black and brown folks and repeated sanctioned attacks on women and trans and queer people, many members of our union are at risk and targeted for violence and policies of repression, which are antithetical to our union’s values and mission; and

WHEREAS: Trump and his campaign have openly promoted an anti-worker, anti-union and corporate agenda which promises to dismantle worker organizations through state-sponsored anti-union legislation, extreme right-wing Supreme Court nominees who promise to make “right-to-work” law of the land, and his own treatment of his union employees—members of UNITEHERE!—and union-busting tactics;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- ▶ We commit to each other as members of 3299 to fight to protect all members of 3299 and the communities we represent.
- ▶ We pledge to work in coalition and organize within and among our communities, especially those most vulnerable to the new administration’s pledged policies.
- ▶ We pledge to unite our membership and heal the divide this election has caused, by telling our stories and listening to each other.
- ▶ We will organize our union and its resources to fight the policies the new administration and employers like UC will use to attack us.
- ▶ We will organize for political power that truly represents and meets working people’s needs.