



RESOLUTION

“Uniting for the American Dream”

Change to Win Convention
September 25, 2007

Change to Win was founded on September 27, 2005 in St. Louis under the banner of Restoring the American Dream. The unions of Change to Win took on the central challenge of our times – to organize workers in the jobs and industries of the 21st century to make the American Dream a reality for a new generation of workers.

The Convention adopted a constitution and resolutions committing Change to Win and its affiliates to devote maximum resources and strategic focus to the task of uniting, on an industry wide basis, millions of workers in a revitalized and innovative labor movement.

Over the last two years, Change to Win has aggressively pursued that mission in the workplace, in the community, and in the political life of our nation.

As pledged, Change to Win and its affiliates:

- Established the first Strategic Organizing Center in the American labor movement;
- Allocated seventy-five percent of the federation’s per capita income to funding industry-wide, large-scale campaigns;
- Developed national organizing plans to increase the percentage of union membership in Change To Win core industries– the fastest growing industries in today’s economy;
- Initiated and integrated affiliate capital stewardship program and global approach to strategic organizing;
- Integrated our strategic organizing with our political action.

Change to Win, in conjunction with its affiliates, launched large scale campaigns in the nation’s transportation, retail, food, and residential construction industries. The Change to Win/Teamsters port driver campaign is the largest private sector organizing effort underway in the nation today. Our strategic organizing center is now expanding its focus to the entire logistics and distribution supply chain.

Affiliates committed to long-term growth in core industries and are supporting one another in unprecedented ways in key campaigns like Hotel Workers Rising, Driving Up Standards Together, Justice at Smithfield, Miami and Houston janitors, and many others. Further, Change to Win affiliates have dramatically shifted resources to organizing and are restructuring their organizations for growth.

In the 2006 mid-term elections, our affiliates came together with the rest of labor and the progressive community to win back the House and the Senate for working families. Change to Win ran successful programs to elect pro-worker governors and senators in Ohio, Michigan and Pennsylvania.

CHANGE to WIN

By integrating our political program into our organizing program we have made gains at the state and local level, as we have moved major initiatives on the misclassification of independent contractors, high road procurement and economic development reform.

In 2007, the Change to Win Leadership Council passed a ten cent per capita assessment to build a state of the art coordinated political program to ensure the election of a pro-labor president in 2008 and to expand the pro-labor majorities in the Senate and House in order to pass the Employee Free Choice Act. Passage and signing of EFCA will serve as the focus of all of Change to Win's political work leading into 2009.

Within two years, Change to Win affiliates have come together to create formal and informal structures at the state and local level. Powerful alliances in Michigan, Florida, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Kentucky and many other states and cities are working together to realize Change to Win's mission of uniting millions of workers in the jobs of the 21st century.

Whereas, our founding convention committed Change to Win to a pledge to organize to make work pay, restore the right to organize, win universal health care and retirement security, and defend the right of immigrant workers.

Whereas, real wages and incomes continue to lag productivity and profits of corporations by a wide margin. Nearly 50 million Americans are without health insurance and tens of millions more are underinsured. The erosion of retirement security has continued unabated. The gap between the super-rich and everyone else has expanded dramatically, and the immigration crisis has intensified.

And whereas, the Change to Win American Dream Survey reveals rising anger and anxiety among American workers due to the continued erosion of the American Dream.

Be it hereby resolved that the delegates to the second Convention of Change to Win, coming together under the banner of "Uniting for the American Dream," rededicate ourselves to:

- Expand comprehensive campaigns to increase union membership in each affiliate's core industries as a means to rebuild worker power and unite millions in the growth industries of the 21st century.
- Accelerate the restructuring of our unions at the national, state, and local levels to advance our strategic organizing model.
- Increase coordination between our affiliates to unite millions of workers into our unions.
- Expand our activities and leverage in the capital markets to simultaneously enhance shareholder value and worker rights.
- Expand global coordination with unions around the world in campaigns to organize workers at multi-national employers and leverage global relationships to reduce employer resistance.
- Intensify our work and coordination, in conjunction with other labor and progressive organizations, in the electoral arena to advance the interests of workers through the passage and signing of the Employee Free Choice Act and the election of pro-worker leadership at all levels of government.

Finally, be it hereby resolved that the delegates to this second Convention of Change to Win, commit themselves to expanding the worker movement and restoring the American Dream for all.