

Action on Resolutions – Continued

The following summary shows the result of the Convention's actions on the remaining resolutions on Friday, September 15, 2006.

Resolution No. 19 puts the IBEW on record in support of efforts of the March of Dimes. Delegates approved the committee's recommendation to concur.

Resolution No. 20 regards full participation with the AFL-CIO's National Affiliation Fee Program (NAFP), and full affiliation of all IBEW local unions with the state AFL-CIO federations. The resolution calls for IBEW participation in NAFP, whereby the I.O. pays the per capita to all state federations in the United States on behalf of its local unions to affiliate at the 100 percent level, and in turn, receives a 15 percent discount on the payment. It calls for the I.O. to charge its local unions the sum of the full per capita payment to the respective state federation, and refund the 15 percent savings with an end-of-the-year payment to all IBEW local unions in the United States. It further calls for the IBEW to work with the AFL-CIO National Building and Construction Trades Department to develop a similar national payment program for full affiliation for local unions. Delegates approved the committee's recommendation to concur.

Resolution No. 21 calls for delegates of the Convention to go on record in support of proposed legislation HR 676, the U.S. National Health Insurance Act. The committee agreed with the basic intent of the resolution and that the healthcare issue is one that cannot be resolved at the bargaining table and must be addressed through the passage of legislation. However, in researching HR 676, the committee concluded that the total ramification of HR 676 must be understood before it can be endorsed by the IBEW. The committee recommended nonconcurrency. The delegates approved the committee's recommendation of nonconcurrency.

Resolution No. 22 puts the Convention on record as recommending to all local unions that they affiliate and participate in the affairs of the Labor Division of the National Safety Council. Delegates approved the committee's recommendation to concur.

Resolution No. 23 addresses the NEAP and NEBF suspension rule. It deals with the suspension of a NEBF recipient's benefit when actively organizing on behalf of an IBEW local union. The committee agreed with the intent of the resolution and requests the IBEW NEBF trustees to do everything within their power to negotiate an amendment to the suspension of benefits clause. Delegates approved the committee's recommendation of concurrence.

Resolution Nos. 24, 26, 27 and 28 dealing with NEBF were combined by the committee. The substitute resolution requests that International officers open discussions with NECA to implement by all means legally and actuarially sound an increase in the NEBF contribution rate to 5 percent effective Jan. 1, 2007, or as soon thereafter as practical. Additionally, the resolution calls for the NEBF to pursue a cost analysis to

determine the feasibility of increasing the current defined pension benefit; and that the NEBF pursue a cost analysis to determine the feasibility of providing a monetary payout to participants' children and/or estate in the event the participant dies without a surviving spouse. Resolution further calls for cost analyses to determine the feasibility of providing a benefit increase to current NEBG retirees, adding an "Early Retirement Option at age 60." and reducing early retirement penalties. Finally, resolution puts the 37th Convention on record commending International President Hill and Secretary Jon Walters for their efforts in securing a better, stronger pension for the members of the IBEW. Delegates approved the committees' recommendation of concurrence with the substitute resolution.

Resolution No. 25 proposes that NEBF develop Internet access to participants and local unions to review employees' credited years of service. The committee concurred, explaining that NEBF is currently working to make the information available online to participants. However, information will be available only to individual participants due to confidentiality requirements. The committee recommended concurrence. Delegates approved committee's recommendation of concurrence.

Resolution No. 29 proposes that the Convention go on record supporting the continuation of productive labor management relationships with NECA and thanking National NECA for its adoption of a 1988 policy barring membership to nonunion contractors. The committee concurred. Delegates approved committee's recommendation of concurrence.

Resolution No. 30 proposes that all delegates to the Convention support the NJATC's "Success in the Workplace" DVD series. The resolution further suggests that all local unions with construction jurisdiction shall be strongly urged to purchase the DVD series and ensure that it is widely shown. The committee concurred. Delegates approved committee's recommendation of concurrence.

Resolution No. 31 [Support of Nuclear Energy] and Resolution No. 1 [Alternative Energy Sources] were combined and adopted.

Resolution No. 32 proposes that IBEW local unions be encouraged to develop political fundraising efforts for the national political fund; that IBEW local unions commit to raise at least \$10 per member per year to the fund; that IBEW local unions that have not negotiated a payroll deduction, or a political check-off with their employers do so immediately. The committee concurred. Delegates approved committee's recommendation of concurrence.

Resolution No. 33 proposes that IBEW International Officers lobby local, state and federal legislators to enact laws that would allow for electrical license reciprocity so that traveling members will not be subjected to redundant testing. The committee concurred. Delegates amended the resolution to make lobbying for reciprocity voluntary on the part of local unions---the committee's recommendation of concurrence was then approved, as amended.

Resolution No. 34 was combined with Resolution No. 11.

Resolution No. 35 proposes that the IBEW go on record and campaign against any person or organization that supports or promotes right-to-work legislation. The committee concurred. Delegates approved committee's recommendation of concurrence.

Resolution No. 36 proposes that NFPA 70E Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace (relating to de-energizing circuits prior to beginning work) be included in Inside Jurisdiction Category 1 safety language. The committee recommended nonconcurrence because the language would mandate compliance. Delegates rejected the committee's recommendation of nonconcurrence and then voted to pass the resolution.

Resolution No. 37 proposes that IBEW take affirmative steps to notify members of the dangers of working with high voltage porcelain cut-outs that are subject to undetectable cracks. The resolution further proposes that IBEW work with contractors and governmental agencies to set up programs to replace faulty cut-outs. The committee concurred. Delegates approved the committee's recommendation of concurrence.

Resolution No. 38 reaffirms the commitment made at the 35th and 36th Conventions opposing sexual harassment. The resolution proposed that the processing of complaints on sexual harassment include investigations, findings, recommendations and protection from reprisals for the complainant. The committee concurred. Delegates approved the committee's recommendation of concurrence.

Resolution No. 40 proposes that the IBEW exert every effort to cause the passage of legislation to create universal health coverage and fair share legislation at the state level. The resolution further proposes that the leadership of each local fully consider joining the Sav-Rx Program and merging local health plans into the IBEW National Health Plan. The committee concurred. Delegates approved the committee's recommendation .

Resolution No. 41 proposes that IBEW adopt a policy on immigration based upon the following principles: securing the nation's borders; giving undocumented workers the opportunity to pursue citizenship; increasing enforcement of laws to punish those who exploit undocumented workers; establishing labor protections, including wage floor provisions, when expanding visas to fill labor shortages and rejecting guest worker programs. The committee concurred. [Delegates passed an amendment striking bullet-point #2: "Give undocumented workers the opportunity to pursue citizenship with emphasis on reunification of families."] Delegates then ratified the committee's recommendation of concurrence, as amended.

Resolution No. 42 proposes that IBEW locals strengthen their partnership with the Variety Club. Delegates approved the committee's recommendation of concurrence.

Resolution No. 43 proposes that the IBEW reaffirm its commitment to organizing the unorganized. The committee concurred. Delegates approved the committee's recommendation of concurrence.

Resolution No. 44 proposes that retired Canadian officers and representatives receive their pension in U.S. dollars, contending that contributions to their pensions are made in U.S. dollars. The committee stated that the issue was raised at the 2001 Convention and was referred by delegate action to a special committee comprised of representatives from both Canada and the U.S. The special committee's decision was not to change the basis of current retiree payments to Canadian staff. The Resolutions Committee stated that the contention that Canadian pension plans are funded in U.S. dollars is erroneous and recommended nonconcurrence. Delegates approved the committee's recommendation of nonconcurrence.