

## **For a May Day 2017 General Strike to defend labor, immigrant, and civil rights**

WHEREAS the Trump administration has wasted no time in fulfilling Trump's bigoted campaign promises by attacking immigrants, refugees, and Muslims with travel bans and ICE raids; and

WHEREAS millions of youth and working people across the nation have vigorously protested the President's policies, with the Women's March on the first day of his presidency being the largest demonstrations in U.S. history; and

WHEREAS unions, a prime target of the right wing, face the real threat of union-busting Right to Work (for less) legislation, which has had a hearing in the Washington State legislature and is being considered by a Republican controlled U.S. Congress, and public sector unions could soon see a U.S. Supreme Court ruling that would decimate their collective bargaining rights; and

WHEREAS the right wing agenda has long included breaking unions, gutting the social safety net, privatizing public education, eviscerating environmental laws, deregulating banking and other industries, militarizing the police, waging endless war, and weakening civil rights protections, and Trump's Cabinet appointees indicate that they plan to follow this reactionary agenda; and

WHEREAS national immigrant rights organizations are calling for "A Day Without an Immigrant" national actions on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017; and

WHEREAS history has shown that strikes have been the most effective weapon in labor's arsenal, and motions supporting a general strike on May Day, the international workers' holiday, have been passed by the Seattle Education Association and UAW 4121, which represents academic student employees at the University of Washington;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Washington Federation of State Employees (WFSE) Local 304 support the movement for a general strike on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, and urge its state and national affiliates, WFSE and AFSCME, to work with other unions, low-paid workers, and community groups to organize a strike that is national in scope; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the demands of the general strike will be:

Stop Trump's attacks on immigrants, Muslims, and refugees;

Defend unions – stop Right to Work laws, repeal the Taft Hartley Act;

Equality for all – fight discrimination against women, workers of color, and LGBT people, and support women's equality by demanding equal pay for equal work, full reproductive rights, and free childcare;

Jobs for all through rebuilding the infrastructure and public jobs programs;

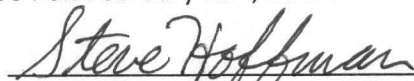
Defeat attempts to destroy the social safety net, including subsidized healthcare; and

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that this resolution be shared widely with unions, central labor councils, and the community in order to help build widespread support for a general strike on May Day.

Passed at the general membership meeting of WFSE 304 on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017.



Ty Pethe, President



Steve Hoffman, Recording Secretary