

## **FIXING OUR BROKEN LABOR LAWS – Coalition of Labor Union Women**

WHEREAS: Strong unions help provide good jobs to millions of women in this country due to the power of collective bargaining and our ability to fight for justice.

WHEREAS: Unions are a particular asset to women through their ability to narrow the gender gap in wages and benefits.

WHEREAS: The labor movement has historically been a driving force in building good, secure communities and creating family-sustaining jobs.

WHEREAS: That foundation is threatened by the breakdown of labor laws which no longer protect workers' fundamental right to organize.

WHEREAS: Employers are engaging in a growing number of anti-union tactics including hiring "union-busting" consultants in 75 percent of organizing campaigns, forcing employees to attend mandatory anti-union meetings in nearly every campaign, firing workers who engage in union activity in 25 percent of campaigns, and working against a first contract in cases where workers have overcome the odds and organized.

WHEREAS: The penalties for illegal company behavior fail to provide any meaningful deterrent.

WHEREAS: The Employee Free Choice Act (SB842 and HR1696) has been introduced to help stop the continued violations of labor law which threaten the ability of workers to secure unions and ultimately undermine all of our efforts to secure decent wages, benefits and protections that provide stability for women and their families.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: We will speak out against the abuses of our right to organize, and educate our members and the broader community on the critical need to restore our freedom to form unions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: We will look for opportunities to assist our sisters and brothers who are actively trying to organize a union in their efforts. Our support can provide encouragement when it may be needed the most.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: We will promote legislation such as the Employee Free Choice Act that will level the playing field for organizing workers, as well as engage in direct lobbying and other activities to educate Members of Congress on the problems with our current labor laws.

*Submitted by the Pittsburgh Chapter of CLUW and United Steelworkers (USW)*

*Adopted by the CLUW National Executive Board - March 25, 2006*