

California Faculty Association Resolution In Solidarity with Los Angeles Teachers

WHEREAS, our union sisters and brothers and fellow educators in United Teachers Los Angeles (UTLA) have been in a year-long fight with the Los Angeles Unified School District where the district has refused to bargain in good faith; and

WHEREAS, solidarity is the most basic principle of labor, and it is more crucial now than ever since the Janus decision that public employees stick together; and

WHEREAS, UTLA members have voted overwhelmingly in favor of authorizing a strike by their union; and

WHEREAS, California ranks 43 out of 50 in funding per pupil and 48th overall in class size even as it is the richest state in the country; and

WHEREAS, this bipartisan nationwide attack that has drained resources away from public education is no led at the national level by Trump's "voucher vulture" Betsy DeVos, while in Los Angeles it was spearheaded by Democratic Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and Democratic Governor Jerry Brown, and continues under Villaraigosa's successor Eric Garcetti; and

WHEREAS, teachers strikes from West Virginia to Oklahoma to Arizona and elsewhere, defying antilabor laws, inspired workers across the country looking for a way to fight and win in the post-Janus environment; and

WHEREAS, the fight for funding public education is linked to the fight against privatization and systemic racism, and what is true in the California State University (CSU) system is true for LA schools as well: as the student body has gotten darker, funding has gotten lighter; and

WHEREAS, the 1989 UTLA teachers strike shows that a determined struggle can win significant gains that would benefit not only teachers and students but the labor movement as a whole; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the California Faculty Association stands shoulder-to-shoulder with our fellow Union teachers; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in the event of a strike we will mobilize students and faculty throughout the CSU system to massively participate in UTLA picket lines; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the CFA Assembly recommends that the CFA Board of Directors authorize a donation of \$5,000 to the UTLA strike fund; and be it also

RESOLVED, that CFA will formally and publicly present this motion to UTLA.