

## **Resolution of the Southern Workers Assembly in Support of the ILA Negotiations for a Fair Contract!**

In an economy and society where a job is a requirement to provide the necessities of life for ones' self and family, worker rights are human rights.

The global supply chain represented in large part by the International Longshoreman's Association, is a vital part of the operations of the global economy. It also represents an important base of power for the working class to fight for improvements for all workers and communities.

The negotiations between the International Longshoreman's Association (ILA) representing longshore workers on East and Gulf Coasts and U.S. Maritime Alliance representing the employers of the shipping industry which is due to expire on September 30, 2012, have reached a critical juncture.

As the economic crisis has left millions of U.S. workers unemployed, employers are proposing technological changes at a pace that will increase the unemployment and deepen the economic and social crisis for working people. It is also aimed at decreasing the power of the working class to impact production and commodity delivery as a basis of leverage in negotiating fair contracts and responding to attacks on the human rights of working people and communities.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Southern Workers Assembly (SWA), a convergence of workers from eight Southern States and growing at our meeting on September 3, 2012 in Charlotte, NC, stand in solidarity with the ILA in its negotiations for a fair contract for its more than 14,000 members representing thousands more families and communities who will be affected by the contract.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that SWA will build solidarity committees and actions especially in the East and Gulf Coast cities where the 14 main ports are located.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the SWA calls on unions, worker and community and faith base organizations to pass resolutions in support the ILA in its efforts to gain a fair contract.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the SWA calls on all unions, worker and community and faith based organizations and supporters to send emails to U.S Maritime Alliance Chairman and CEO, James A. Capo [jcapo@usmx.com](mailto:jcapo@usmx.com) calling on them to negotiate in good faith and to protect jobs for working people.

Send copies of emails to James A. Capo to the Southern Workers Assembly to [info@southernworker.org](mailto:info@southernworker.org)