

## **RESOLUTION #5** *(Page 1 of 2)*

### **Support for Women's Health and Women's Inclusion in Healthcare Decisions**

*Submitted by: Delegate Michelle Paul, Illinois Federation of Teachers Council*

**WHEREAS**, women are often excluded from conversations regarding women's healthcare despite a large body of research that confirms having women at the table results in policies that are better for women's health, human rights, and children and families; and

**WHEREAS**, federal lawmakers are leading many concerning assaults on the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid that affect women's health; and

**WHEREAS**, scientifically based, comprehensive information regarding women's reproductive health is being censored in some venues, and federal funding for women's healthcare is under attack; and

**WHEREAS**, some insurance companies and employers are limiting women's contraceptive choices based on false information and religious beliefs; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal Food and Drug Administration has a history of approving drugs and devices with limited inclusion of women, people of color, and other subpopulations in testing; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 200,000 rape kits across the United States have gone untested; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of State released its annual Human Rights report on April 20, 2018 with dramatically scaled back reporting on women's reproductive health and rights; and

**WHEREAS**, pregnant women detained and held by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement do not always receive appropriate prenatal care; and

**WHEREAS**, the federal government and some states are working to restrict abortion services and threatening funding for organizations that provide women with comprehensive and medically accurate reproductive choices and services:

**RESOLVED**, that the Illinois AFL-CIO will support policies that advance health equity, and address affordability and access barriers that affect women; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Illinois AFL-CIO will engage policymakers to work toward policies that protect and benefit women's health; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Illinois AFL-CIO will support organizations as they advocate for funding to clear the backlog of untested rape kits; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Illinois AFL-CIO will work with legislative partners and support local union contract negotiations to ensure health insurance markets and employer-based health plans offer comprehensive care plans that cover unrestricted reproductive health coverage; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Illinois AFL-CIO will demonstrate its support for the federal Food and Drug Administration's plans to increase inclusion of women, people of color, and other subpopulations in testing drugs and medical devices prior to approval, and encourage the agency to be transparent in its findings; and

**RESOLVED**, that the Illinois AFL-CIO will continue to defend and work to strengthen the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid to ensure that low-income women and their families have affordable insurance options; and

# Resolutions

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## **RESOLUTION #5** *(Page 2 of 2)*

**RESOLVED**, that the Illinois AFL-CIO will support organizations that provide millions of women with access to comprehensive, medically accurate reproductive health services and education, and be it finally

**RESOLVED**, that the Illinois AFL-CIO will work urge the national AFL-CIO to demand that U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement provide detained pregnant women with immediate and ongoing quality prenatal and obstetric care and that the U.S. Department of State restore full reporting of women's health and reproductive statistics in its annual Human Rights report.