

Resolutions

RESOLUTION #27

Support Greater Access, Inclusion in Voting

Submitted by Delegate Michael Caref, National Association of Letter Carriers

WHEREAS, the Illinois AFL-CIO has historically supported initiatives making it easier for people to vote; and

WHEREAS, Illinois has been leading the way in recent years regarding taking down barriers to ballot access and providing avenues for all citizens to participate in electing our leaders on the local, state and national levels; and

WHEREAS, due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the General Assembly passed and Gov. JB Pritzker signed into law a bill significantly expanding voting opportunities for the 2020 General Election; and

WHEREAS, this new law for the 2020 election includes, among many positive components, creating a state holiday for Election Day, establishing a universal vote by mail ballot application and website to request a ballot, automatic ballot application distribution and reminders to recent voters, and a presumption of validity for ballots making it harder to throw out valid ballots; and

WHEREAS, this legislation will make it easier for people to cast votes during this unprecedented time, it will also serve as a guide to future paths to increased voter awareness and inclusion; and

WHEREAS, the Illinois AFL-CIO is running an aggressive program to educate and mobilize union household voters to vote early and by mail this year and in future elections; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the affiliates of the Illinois AFL-CIO will support the efforts of Labor 2020 and within their own internal political programs to engage early voting and vote by mail as avenues to increase and amplify labor's voice in the electoral process; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Illinois AFL-CIO and its affiliates will seek to make permanent the key ballot access components of the 2020 election changes made in Senate Bill 1863, as well as continue to strive for improvements, including universal ballot distribution and vote by mail.