

RESOLUTION #31

Affordable Housing

Submitted by Delegate Dorothy James, AFGE

WHEREAS, Illinois and the nation face a lack of affordable housing which the COVID-19 crisis has exacerbated; and

WHEREAS, Governor J.B. Pritzker has taken positive action to address evictions during the COVID-19 crisis; and

WHEREAS, Local 911 of the American Federation of Government Employees represents housing experts at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and

WHEREAS, the American Legislative Exchange Council, an anti-union lobbying group, pushed for passage of the Rent Control Preemption Act of 1997; and

WHEREAS, this act prevents cities, counties and the state from regulating how much rent can increase over a 12-month period; and

WHEREAS, this act also prevents cities, counties and the state from enacting laws requiring “good cause” for eviction; and

WHEREAS, unions have always fought for working families to be able to afford a home; and

WHEREAS, AFGE local 911’s housing experts know that rent control can be an important part of city, state and federal affordable housing plans; and

WHEREAS, AFGE Local 911’s executive board has voted in January 2019 to support efforts to lift the ban on rent control in Illinois; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Illinois AFL-CIO supports affordable housing in Illinois; and be it further

RESOLVED, that as part of supporting affordable housing, the Illinois AFL-CIO supports lifting the ban on rent control in Illinois; and be it further

RESOLVED, that as part of supporting affordable housing, the Illinois AFL-CIO supports additional efforts to reduce evictions, especially those caused by economic hardship related to the COVID-19 crisis; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Illinois AFL-CIO in connection with AFGE Local 911 will develop educational materials to share important facts about affordable housing and will share this vital information to spread knowledge and awareness around the issue.