



*Adopted April 29, 2014*

## **Resolution**

# **Mobilizing Seniors for the 2014 Elections**

**Whereas** the 2014 elections will determine which political party controls the U.S. House and Senate in the years ahead, with the power to affect the future of Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and other critical federal programs that serve seniors and all Americans; and

**Whereas** the fall elections will also determine who wins governorships in key states where union rights have been challenged and where public pensions are on the line; and

**Whereas** older voters make up a larger percentage of the electorate in non-presidential election years, when they reliably go to the polls in greater numbers than younger voters; and

**Whereas** in the 2010 mid-term elections, Republican candidates won the senior vote by 21 points – continuing a trend toward seniors' conservative voting that began in the 2008 Presidential election; and

**Whereas** recent polling shows that most older voters strongly support federal programs that provide retirement security and often vote against their interests by supporting conservative candidates who want to dismantle them; and

**Whereas** by reducing the margin of older people who vote Republican by even a small number could turn around the fall elections for more progressive candidates at both the state and national levels; and

**Whereas** the Alliance for Retired Americans is an organization of activists, who have a long history of fighting for programs and benefits that serve the needs of the vast majority of Americans, including those that provide retirement security.

**Therefore, be it resolved** that the national Alliance and its state affiliates mobilize members for the fall elections, encouraging them to volunteer for labor and candidate campaigns, to help with voter registration and absentee ballot distribution, phone banking, leafleting and other activities aimed at increasing the senior vote for progressive candidates who are supportive of labor and senior citizen rights; and

**Be it further resolved** that the Alliance will produce and distribute materials that explain what's at stake in specific races and in the election's outcome as a whole, clearly showing the differences between candidates and parties on the issues seniors care about most; and

**Be it finally resolved** that the Alliance urges members to talk to their friends and family and tell them the enormous stakes that ride on election outcomes this November.