

Resolution

Furtherance of Racial Justice and Human Equality

Whereas in November 2014, 12 year old Tamir Rice was fatally shot while playing in a city park by an officer sworn to protect and serve; and

Whereas the Cleveland AFL-CIO Retiree Council was so deeply impacted they passed a resolution to begin a Racial Justice Committee; and

Whereas in February of 2015 the national AFL-CIO established a Commission on Racial and Economic Justice. The appointed Commission represented leaders from all sectors of labor. They held hearings in eight cities around the country, beginning in Cleveland. In January of 2017, and the commission issued its report, a summary, recommendations and additional guides for implementing a program; and

Whereas when working people are divided, working families lose, our unions lose, the forces for progress lose, and our democracy is weakened; and

Whereas we cannot ignore attacks on immigrants, religious minorities, women, and communities of color; and



Whereas the labor movement embraces all working people whatever their religious beliefs, wherever they live, whomever they love, whatever they look like; and

Whereas our power comes from our solidarity, an attack on one of us is an attack on all of us. That is what solidarity means; and.

Whereas we cannot sit idly by and overlook injustices and inequality; and

Whereas many of the members of the Alliance have both experienced and/or witnessed racial and economic disparities in their working lives and in their retirement; and

Whereas we must provide support and leadership.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alliance for Retired Americans encourage and support each chapter, affiliate to examine their capacity to take on the issues of racial and economic justice, in their communities, local and state government and institutions.

Be it finally resolved that the Alliance for Retired Americans supports the national AFL-CIO recommendations to establish a working racial and economic justice group which can and should include AFL-CIO and allies from the community.