Resolution
Honoring John J. Sweeney

Whereas John J. Sweeney served as president of the AFL-CIO from 1995 to 2009 and is largely responsible for revitalizing the federation during his time in leadership; and

Whereas he broadened the vision for the union and championed issues of civil rights, racial justice and gender equality; and

Whereas he fought for diverse and honest leaders at every level; and

Whereas as President of the Service Employees International Union he nearly doubled the growth of its members during his 15 years of leadership; and

Whereas he successfully spearheaded the revolutionary Justice for Janitors campaign of mass civil disobedience in Los Angeles; and

Whereas he redefined activism and inclusivity while building the federation into a political force; and

Whereas he dedicated nearly 60 years of service to fight for representation and equity for workers; and

Whereas it was his vision for increased retiree activism that led to the founding of the Alliance for Retired Americans in 2001; and

Adopted July 27, 2022
Therefore, be it resolved that the Alliance for Retired Americans mourns the loss of John J. Sweeney and pledges to continue his vision of growing retiree activism.