

International Longshore and Warehouse Union
Longshore, Clerk, and Walking Boss Caucus
Vancouver, British Columbia
May 22-26, 2006

Resolution: Miscellaneous # 10
M/S/C to adopt
5/25/06 p.m.

COPRA CRANE

WHEREAS: The Copra Crane at Pier 84 in San Francisco is being restored as a historic landmark by a committee of retired union members with assistance from The Friends of Islais Creek, the Fund For Labor Culture and History, and the Maintenance Department of the Port of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS: This restoration project is being built in three stages including shoring up the pilings, rebuilding the deck and sandblasting, and painting the crane; and

WHEREAS: Members of ILWU locals 6, 10, 34, and 91 have historically worked at the Copra dock in unloading and processing the copra from the Philippines, and finally loading the finished product back onto ships, trucks and trains; and

WHEREAS: Our ILWU founder, Harry Bridges first sailed to the West Coast of North America on a copra ship; and

WHEREAS: ILWU members have participated in creation of The Copra Crane Labor Landmarks Association (CCLLA), including Brothers Bill Ward and Don Watson, retired from Local 34, Brothers Joe Lucas and Cleophas Williams retired from Local 10 and also Brother Lawrence Thibeaux, active with Local 10 and also including other ILWU members who served on the advisory committee; and

WHEREAS: The Crane will be viewed as a symbol of longshore, warehouse and other maritime trade unions work in San Francisco and the Pacific Coast; and

WHEREAS: Union members and citizens of San Francisco have worked to create a park surrounding the crane with the cooperation of the city and regional entities; and

WHEREAS: San Francisco's Building Trades locals and members, particularly including Pile Drivers Local 34 and Iron Workers Local 377 have pledged both labor and materials to this cause; and

WHEREAS: All funds collected will be ably handled through the non-profit Fund for Labor Culture and History; THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: That the Longshore Division Caucus support the restoration of this historic Copra Crane project at Pier 84 in San Francisco to full conclusion; and BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED: The ILWU will work with the above mentioned CCLLA, Pile Drivers, Iron Workers, building trade allies, community supporters, and the labor movement to help provide the material and money necessary to complete this job.

Submitted by,

Ship Clerk's Association, ILWU Local 34