

International Longshore and Warehouse Union  
Thirty-fifth International Convention  
San Diego, California  
June 4 – 8, 2012

M/S/C  
6/7/12 pm

Resolution # R- 38

SUPPORT THE RATIFICATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION'S  
MARITIME LABOR CONVENTION

WHEREAS: the International Labor Organization (ILO) Maritime Labor Convention (MLC), 2006 provides comprehensive rights and protection at work for the world's more than 1.2 million seafarers. The Convention aims to achieve both decent work for seafarers and secure economic interests in fair competition for quality shipowners. As an estimated 90% of world trade is carried on ships, seafarers are essential to international trade and the international economic and trade system. The new labor standard consolidates and upgrades more than 68 international labor standards related to the maritime sector adopted over the last 80 years; and

WHEREAS: the Convention sets out seafarers' rights to decent conditions of work on a wide range of subjects, and aims to be globally applicable, easily understandable, readily updatable, and uniformly enforced. It has been designed to become a global instrument known as the "fourth pillar" of the international regulatory regime for quality shipping, complementing the key Conventions of the International Maritime Organization (IMO); and

WHEREAS: the MLC will benefit Seafarers from around the world including those in the IBU, the Marine Division of the ILWU; and

WHEREAS: the MLC requires 30 nation states to ratify it before it can go into effect and so far the United States is not one of the 26 nations who have ratified the MLC;

THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED: that the ILWU at this 35<sup>th</sup> Convention go on record as supporting the ratification of the MLC by the United States; and BE IT FINALLY

RESOLVED: that the ILWU use its influence in our nation's capital to pressure our elected leaders to ratify the MLC as soon as possible.