

International Longshore and Warehouse Union  
Thirty-fifth International Convention  
San Diego, California  
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M/S/C/U  
6/5/12 am

Resolution # R-7

RETIREMENT SECURITY

- WHEREAS: the number of persons 65 and older will reach 70 million by 2040; and
- WHEREAS: these millions have a wealth of wisdom and decades of experience to offer our country for the full length of their lives; and
- WHEREAS: these millions are entitled to retirement years marked by economic security and quality, affordable health care; and
- WHEREAS: Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid are the programs most critical in providing a foundation for a secure retirement; and
- WHEREAS: the integrity of these programs is under unceasing assault, both from open ideological enemies and from false “friends” in Congress, the media and elsewhere; and
- WHEREAS: Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid should be strengthened, not undermined, by establishing a more substantial basic benefit; by changing the cost-of-living formula to more accurately reflect retiree expenditures; and by changing the benefit formula to compensate workers for their years out of the work force caring for children or elders; THEREFORE BE IT
- RESOLVED: that the ILWU calls upon Congress and the Obama Administration to reject all proposals that undermine the existing Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid benefits, and instead to enact legislation eliminating the cap on earnings subject to Social Security tax, and strengthen these programs to enhance the security and quality of life of our millions of retirees and future retirees.