

Passing Resolutions in Labor Organizations

Unions are an important key to end the US blockade and sanctions against Cuba because they are generally progressive and support community efforts. We support your efforts to enlist unions to pass a resolution to end the blockade and for medical collaboration. Local unions will be instrumental in passing additional resolutions at regional/national labor bodies and can be the key to getting resolutions passed at city councils and other governmental entities.

The steps to gather union support are similar to gaining support from local city council and community groups. It is built upon developing a positive relationship with key union leaders who will initiate the support needed to pass a resolution.

Suggested steps:

1.Lay the Groundwork

- Form a working group. Identify which unions your group have connections with and discuss how to approach those unions.
- Research which unions have already passed resolutions to end the blockade and for medical collaboration.
- Identify the unions most likely to support a resolution to approach first. You can approach unions where there has been some national discussion about resolutions.

2. Identify allies

- Seek out workers centers that may have members who are from or have some connection with Latin American countries that may be sympathetic to a resolution.
- Find out if there is a group of unions in your area that meet about progressive issues, or if unions have a committee that addresses progressive issues (i.e., Latino caucus, health & welfare caucus). Ask if you can make a presentation to at one of their meetings.

3. Make a plan

- Determine when/who to approach first and begin the process of asking unions to pass a resolution.
- Review the model resolutions/fact sheets. Are there paragraphs that need to be added or deleted from the resolution to have it pass?
- Members should have (or develop) a strong connection to the unions/union leaders they approach and understand how unions operate.

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