



## **United Steelworkers Local 8751**

### **Boston School Bus Drivers' Union**

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### **Resolution to Commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Rosa Parks' Arrest by Continuing The Fight Against Poverty, Inequality and War on December 1st 2005**

**Whereas**, December 1st 2005 will mark the 50th anniversary of the day that Rosa Parks helped to open the modern civil rights movement by being arrested in Montgomery Alabama for refusing an order to give her bus seat to a white man, and

**Whereas**, the heroic Montgomery bus boycott against racist segregation that Rosa Park's sparked became the first mass movement to defeat legalized segregation in the South, as well as the struggle that introduced the world to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the boycott's principal spokesperson, and

**Whereas**, the tragic Katrina hurricane exposed to the world that 50 years after the start of the civil rights movement, the need to battle racial inequality, poverty and war, the three things that Dr. King came to see as the enemy of all human progress, remains more urgent than ever before.

**Whereas**, Boston City Council, on October 26, 2005, passed by a 13-0 vote a resolution honoring Rosa Parks and proclaiming 2005 Rosa Parks year stating in part " That the Boston City Council encourages all businesses in the City of Boston, both public and private to either close on December 1, 2005, or allow the many workers and students in the City who will want to attend the Rosa Parks Commemoration event taking place during normal business hours, to take the day off, or leave work and school early with impunity."

#### **Therefore Be It Resolved,**

that United Steelworkers Local 8751, the Boston school bus drivers union, endorse the National Day of Absence commemorating Rosa Park's 50th anniversary, December 1, 2005 and join the call for an end to poverty, racism and war, and specifically the immediate withdrawal of all troops from Iraq and the re-directing of funds wasted on war to important social needs like rebuilding New Orleans, and seeing that all people have health insurance, affordable housing, the right to an education, and jobs that pay a living wage.

#### **Be it further resolved,**

that USW Local 8751 joins with the Troops Out Now Coalition, Million Workers March Movement and hundreds of other organizations and individuals nationally organizing for the December 1 National Day of Absence and encourage other unions to show their solidarity by doing the same.

#### **Be it further resolved,**

that USW Local 8751 joins with the Boston City Council, and will encourage people to take the whole, or part of December 1st off in order to participate in protest events on that day, and that we encourage businesses and schools to either close on December 1st., or accommodate the wishes of many to take the day off with impunity, in order to participate in protest and commemorative events.

#### **Be it further resolved,**

that USW Local 8751 joins in initiating a New England Local Katrina Survivors Solidarity Committee as called for by Saladin Muhammed, Black Workers for Justice, Chris Silvera, Pres. Teamsters National Black Caucus, Brenda Stokely, Million Worker March Movement Eastern Region Co-coordinator; Co-convenor, New York City Labor Against War and others at the march which joined the Historic Millions More Movement Rally on October 15, 2005. This Solidarity Committee will join the national campaign for justice for Katrina Survivors including their right to return to their homes with full restitution for all losses.