



## RESOLUTION FOR THE CHICAGO TEACHERS UNION TO LAUNCH AN INDEPENDENT POLITICAL ORGANIZATION (IPO)

1 **WHEREAS**, the Chicago Teachers Union hopes to transform the traditional means of engaging  
2 in politics and legislative activities in Chicago and Illinois to engender authentic political  
3 engagement to amplify the voice and representation of working and poor people in politics and  
4 the legislative process, and

5 **WHEREAS**, Mayor Emanuel and his allies have supported massive school closings, drastically  
6 reduced school funding, increased racial and economic inequality throughout Chicago, advocated  
7 for mandatory minimums that will lead to increased incarceration of Black and Latino youth,  
8 privatized essential services, and balanced budgets on the backs of the most vulnerable, and

9 **WHEREAS**, we can engage with other likeminded progressive organizations to push for  
10 immediate institutional changes to address the real time needs of working and poor communities  
11 in Chicago through legislative and electoral engagement in City Hall and the Illinois General  
12 Assembly, and

13 **WHEREAS**, we must reinvigorate the average citizen to remind our elected representatives that  
14 they are beholden to their constituencies and the needs of the wards and districts they represent,  
15 therefore be it

16 **RESOLVED** that the Chicago Teachers Union, along with key allies in the progressive labor  
17 movement and amongst progressive community organizations will launch an independent  
18 political organization (IPO) that is capable of leading strong electoral and legislative campaigns  
19 to benefit working families, our active and retired members, and our communities, and be it  
20 further

21 **RESOLVED** that the IPO will enable a broad multitude of diverse organizations to establish a  
22 pipeline for candidate development to identify and train people who are part of our movements  
23 to become elected officials; and that such people are dedicated to our shared vision, will fully  
24 support campaigns that advocate for our needs, and will be held accountable to the people who  
25 helped put them in office, and be it finally

26 **RESOLVED** that the IPO will engage in year round community outreach and campaign to build  
27 public support for our platform and political objectives, not just during the election season; and  
28 the IPO's goal is to develop, elect and support candidates to be advocates for those objectives,  
29 not just to become members of elective office.

Adopted       Adopted as Amended       Defeated       Tabled       Other

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