

Reclaiming **Worker Power**
Energizing **Our Movement**
WASHINGTON STATE LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING LEGISLATION AMENDING REVISED CODE OF WASHINGTON
9A.36.031 TO BE INCLUSIVE TO ALL TRANSPORTATION PERSONNEL
RESOLUTION #2024.10**

WHEREAS, Serious assaults on bus and rail operators have tripled in the past 15 years, causing operators to fear violence on the job, seek transfers, or just quit; and

WHEREAS, Assaults on bus operators increased almost 300% between 2009 and 2023; and

WHEREAS, Revised Code of Washington 9A.36.031 states that:

(1) A person is guilty of assault in the third degree if he or she, under circumstances not amounting to assault in the first or second degree:

(b) Assaults a person employed as a transit operator or driver, the immediate supervisor of a transit operator or driver, a mechanic, or a security officer, by a public or private transit company or a contracted transit service provider, while that person is performing his or her official duties at the time of the assault; or

(c) Assaults a school bus driver, the immediate supervisor of a driver, a mechanic, or a security officer, employed by a school district transportation service or a private company under contract for transportation services with a school district, while the person is performing his or her official duties at the time of the assault; and,

WHEREAS, every person deserves a safe working environment while doing their job and that one job is not considered more important than another; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Washington State Labor Council support changing Revised Code of Washington 9A.36.031 to be inclusive to all transportation personnel while doing their job; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Washington State Labor Council works with local labor unions and legislators to update language to mirror the Federal Transit Agencies definitions of transit personnel assaults and policies; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Washington State Labor Council hereby determines that the passage of legislation to enact such an amendment shall be a priority of its 2025 legislative agenda.